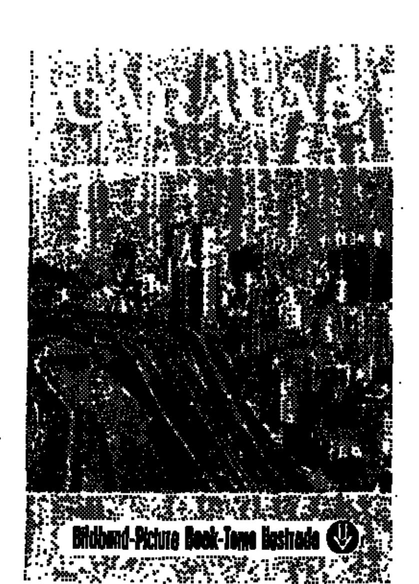
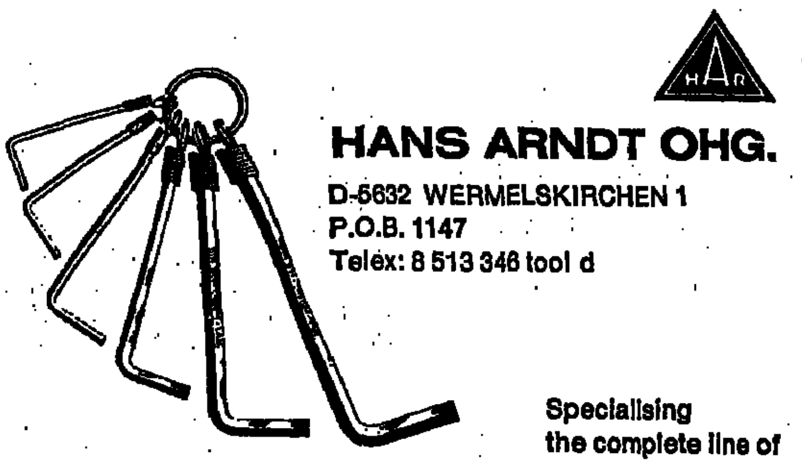


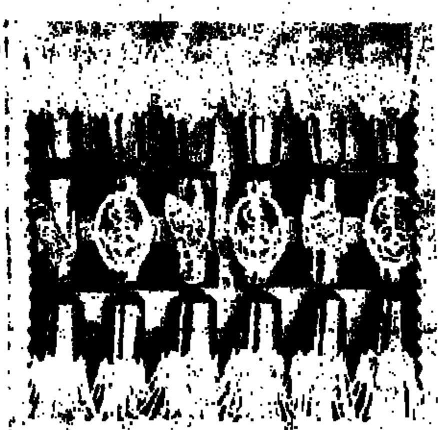


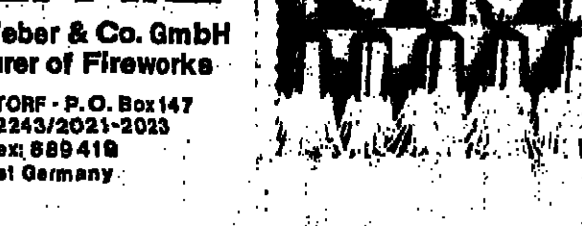












The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Cautious line best for Bonn at human rights talks



At the Belgrade follow-up conference to the Helsinki accords the United States intends to accuse the Soviet bloc in no uncertain terms of disregarding human rights.

The American government will conduct a spirited debate on Basket Three, which included a Soviet commitment on human rights, and not allow itself to be fobbed off by empty Kremlin verbiage.

Bonn's approach to the Belgrade conference, as far as this country has disclosed the line of argument it proposes to adopt, is altogether different.

The Bonn Federal government has no intention of aiding and abetting confrontation over Basket Three and does not favour impassioned disputes about human rights.

Bonn is thinking in terms of emphasising the future rather than the past (or, for that matter, the present), of stressing cooperation rather than a clash of views. Restraint would appear to be the watchword.

This country will certainly not be motivated by the sentiment that it is not morally justified to delve into Basket Three and level political accusations at the Soviet Union.

Let us recall how the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe came about in the first place. In the sixties a gathering of this kind was first mooted as a Soviet brainchild.

Russia anticipated that the CSCE would acknowledge its wartime and post-war gains in Europe, thereby consolidating Soviet dominion over the East bloc and helping to fray the West at the edges.

Moscow was keen to hold the conference in Helsinki, which was a sure sign, if one were needed, that the Soviet objective was to reduce the whole of Western Europe to Finland's status.

The West was none too keen on the whole idea, but eventually consented because the Soviet Union was so insistent and determined to hold a conference.

But the CSCE did not accomplish what the Soviet Union had envisaged; indeed, it provided the West with a number of levers by which to bring pressure to bear on Moscow, chiefly, of course, Basket Three at Helsinki.

What could possibly be either immoral or inappropriate to make use of these opportunities? Were the boot on the other foot, the Soviet Union would not hesitate to exploit every opportunity to the full.

Bonn might, however, argue that it has negotiated agreements with the Soviet Union and other East bloc countries which have either provided for or facilitated humanitarian arrangements for ethnic Germans in Eastern Europe, the inference being that this country is not really entitled to make a hue and cry about Basket Three.

But Bonn paid a high price for its treaties with East bloc countries, and there is no reason why this country should pay yet again by forgoing terms negotiated at Helsinki. Bonn's East bloc treaties and the CSCE are different matters and there must be no confusing them.

It would be only to the good if his clear distinction could be maintained politically, but the weak points of the East bloc treaties, for which the government of Willy Brandt and Walter Scheel is responsible, do not allow this country to capitalise on the Helsinki accords in the way that other Western countries can cheerfully afford to do, should they feel so inclined.

The treaty with the Soviet Union makes no mention of the repatriation of ethnic Germans. Similar arrangements with Czechoslovakia were incorporated in a vaguely-worded note. In Poland's case a new treaty represented an improvement in that figures were at long last mentioned.

Once Poland has issued exit permits for the 125,000 ethnic Germans stipulated, always assuming it does so, it will then be at the Polish government's discretion to issue further permits or not, as Warsaw sees fit.

So far the Polish government seems to be fulfilling its commitments on this score, while the Soviet Union is also issuing exit permits for ethnic Germans at a rate of 10,000 a year.

East Berlin occasionally allows individuals to move west, but only in cases of so-called hardship and strictly at its own discretion. As for Prague, the Czech government may have undertaken to be generous in its handling of visa applications but it has yet to prove so in practice.

In the circumstances can this country feel entirely at liberty to press for East bloc implementation of the humanitarian provisions in the Helsinki accords?

Definitely not. In Belgrade Bonn will have to tread carefully with regard to Basket Three because it is liable to be blackmailed. Yet this country ought not to maintain utter silence, since that would merely increase the risk of blackmail and so serious damage in other sectors.

Were Bonn to maintain silence on the human rights issue, dissidents and anyone else who is in a though spot in the East bloc would be very much the worse off.

They have all taken to claiming the rights of which they were assured by the terms of the Helsinki agreement, and it is the dissidents who have made Basket Three the lever it is. But they will be unable to make further use of the human rights issue if the West takes to maintaining a discreet silence.

Were this country to decamp from the ranks of those who care calling for implementation of the human rights provisions embodies in the Helsinki accords, it would ne setting a bad example.

With opportunist tactics towards the Soviet Union on the increase in Western Europe, other countries would no doubt be quick to follow suit. In next to no time the dissidents would discover that Basket Three was empty.

What is more, there might then be a risk of Bonn and Washington drifting apart. The two countries cannot afford to go their own sweet ways on human rights.

President Carter may not be able to insist that Chancellor Schmidt is as vocal on human rights in Belgrade as he may choose to be, but the United States cannot afford to allow this country to behave in Belgrade as though Bonn has nothing whatever to do with US policy on human rights.

Johann Georg Reissmüller

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 June 1977)



Chancellor Helmut Schmidt welcoming France's Head of State Valery Giscard d'Estaing in Bonn on 16 June (Photo: Sven Simon)

Bonn suspends further nuclear deals

Until further notice Bonn is to withhold permission for exports of nuclear reprocessing plant and know-how, Chancellor Schmidt announced in Bonn on 17 June at the end of two days of talks with President Giscard d'Estaing of France.

Existing agreements, such as the nuclear deal with Brazil and the Euratom treaty, will not be affected by the ban.

The Bonn government stipulated, however, that the ruling will apply on condition that existing agreements to supply nuclear fuel for peacefull purposes are honoured.

This hint, observers in Bonn note, is aimed mainly in Canada's direction, Ottawa having suspended uranium supplies to the Federal Republic.

Both Herr Schmidt and M. Giscard d'Estaing stressed their complete unanimity on this nuclear issue. Bonn government spokesman Armin Grünewald emphasised that the decision to impose an embargo on further exports of nuclear reprocessing facilities had been taken by this country on its own.

The French President went on to outline to journalists what he termed the "substantial" results of what had been the thirtieth round of regular consultations between France and this country.

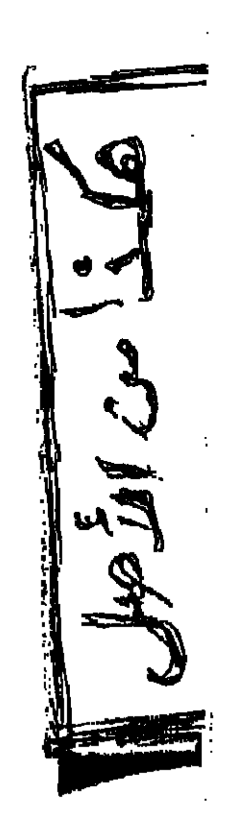
He and Chancellor Schmidt had been in complete agreement in their assessment of economic trends.

At a ceremony to commemorate the five-hundredth anniversary of the inauguration of Mainz University President Giscard d'Estaing of France and Bonn's President Walter Scheel emphasised the importance of Franco-Federal Republic friendship for European integration.

The French leader referred to the joint task of progressing towards a European confederation. *dpa*

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 18 June 1977)

IN THIS ISSUE



FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Genscher's tactics keep Soviet hosts guessing



Hans-Dietrich Genscher in Moscow succeeded in posing his Soviet hosts a number of teasers which should keep them busy for some time.

Herr Genscher is not only Bonn's Foreign Minister, but also leader of the Free Democrats, junior partners in the coalition headed by Chancellor Schmidt's SPD, and as such a past master at tactics.

He began his talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko by reviewing relations between the two countries in terms of continuity since 1955, when Konrad Adenauer established diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union.

At another stage in the talks Herr Genscher noted that both the coalition parties and the Opposition in Bonn regard treaties with the East bloc and the Helsinki accords as firm and binding commitments.

You may find both statements breathtaking only in their banality, but the fact is that both Social and Free Democrats in Bonn have allowed the Soviet Union to accustom itself to the idea of ties between the two countries extending back no further than Willy Brandt's Ostpolitik and the succession of treaties with East bloc countries dating back to about 1970.

Mr Gromyko chose not to review the progress of relations since the mid-fifties; he limited himself to a panegyric on the East bloc treaties.

What, you may wonder, can have motivated Herr Genscher to review the course of relations between Bonn and Moscow over a period of more than twenty years, thereby encompassing the Adenauer era and the long years in power of the Christian Democrats?

Even at the Foreign Office Herr Genscher is not the man to lose sight of domestic considerations. He will surely have stressed that all political parties in the Bundestag are or have been involved in ties with Moscow with a sidelong glance, as it were, at the situation in Bonn.

This is not, of course, to say that the FDP leader was in any way staking a claim to the Foreign Office in a future coalition of Christian and Free Democrats.

He nonetheless indicated that certain guidelines govern Bonn's foreign policy regardless whether the government of the day may be in the doldrums or, indeed, should that be the case, changes may be in the offing.

Herr Genscher doubtless also intended to encourage Christian Democrats who are keen to surmount Ostpolitik obstacles to cooperate with his own party.

The extent to which he has succeeded in so doing may well come to light in the course of the forthcoming Bundestag debate on the budget, which is sure to deal with foreign policy too.

Relations between Bonn and Moscow seem to have grown tinged with nostalgia, with both sides calling to mind times past when new departures were undertaken. Both sides would, indeed, greatly like to embark on a Stage Three of relations, a rapprochement along more level-headed lines than in the past.

Mr Brezhnev, with whom Herr Genscher conferred for longer than decorum might have required, is, when all is said and done, the Soviet leader most closely associated with detente.

Yet the Soviet leader's cordial gestures towards Bonn are not regarded as a matter of course. For the time being, at least, observers wonder what his deeper motives may be.

Foreign Ministers Genscher and Gromyko agreed to negotiate at senior civil servant level on the terms of further agreements between their two countries in preparation for Mr Brezhnev's forthcoming visit to Bonn.

This, however, can hardly be deemed a ray of hope. The Soviet authorities will merely have wanted to avoid creating the impression that Herr Genscher had visited Moscow to no avail.

Differences of opinion over the legal status of West Berlin in the context of treaties between Bonn and Moscow on cultural, scientific and technological exchange have in no way been resolved.

Indeed, Soviet leaders seem to feel that views are so irreconcilable that they prefer, for courtesy's sake, not to mention Berlin at all when more than two people are present.

Behind the scenes the two sides found it uncommonly difficult to agree on a reference to Berlin in the final communiqué. Moscow would undoubtedly prefer to omit from all documents with Bonn any mention of "full implementation" of the Four-Power Agreement on Berlin.

The outcome is that both sides are anxious not to overbid their hands on Berlin. Herr Genscher made occasional play with resounding terms such as "touchstone" and "vital interest", but was quick to point out to his Soviet hosts that this was partly in deference to a powerful Opposition in Bonn.

The Soviet Union has taken ties to an even more logical conclusion, diversification. Bilaterally Bonn is viewed in the main as a trading partner, while in the political context the Kremlin is keen to compare notes on international affairs, such as the Law of the Sea conference, world trade, disarmament, non-proliferation and energy, all of which are less likely to lead to controversy than bilateral problems.

It would be wrong to assume that differences of opinion are limited to Berlin. Both countries have at times harboured illusions of treaty ties leading to the acquisition of a new ally outside their respective blocs.

But in point of fact views remain diametrically opposed on disarmament, while the European Community and direct elections to the European Parliament remain a sore point — and not merely because of Berlin.

So the communiqué dealt with disarmament in general terms only, while no mention whatever was made of Europe or the Common Market.

On the other hand the Soviet Union does not appear to envisage playing Bonn off against Washington on, say, human rights. Herr Genscher regards "humanitarian issues" solely in terms of reuniting families separated by political divisions in Europe.

Middle-of-the-road position

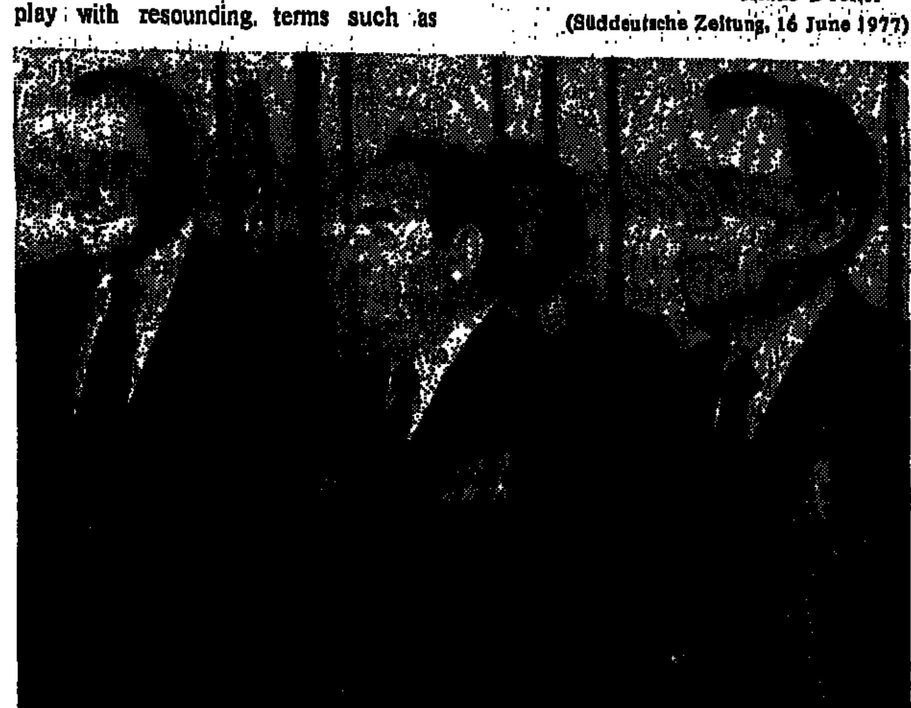
He is not a dedicated human rights campaigner and his Soviet hosts were able to reassure themselves that Bonn will take a middle-of-the-road position in Belgrade, but they did not try to bring further pressure to bear.

All told, Herr Genscher's visit to Moscow may not have been a roaring success; but it was not a failure either. There was no milk spilt and ties may further improve.

But both sides will need to have a few bright ideas between now and Mr Brezhnev's visit to Bonn later this year. Otherwise the meeting between the Bonn Chancellor and the Soviet President looks like proving inconclusive.

Klaus Dreher

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 16 June 1977)



Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, left, in Moscow with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko (Photo: dpa)

Gesture by Moscow over West Berlin

Hannoversche Allgemeine

For the first time in three years the Soviet Union has seen fit to agree to a reiteration in full of the provision to "strictly observe and fully implement" the terms of the 1972 Four-Power Agreement on Berlin.

The reference was incorporated in the communiqué issued at the end of Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher's two-day visit to the Soviet capital and must be deemed a cordial gesture by his Soviet hosts.

It does not, however, mean that a breakthrough has been achieved on the vexed issue of the divided city. "Strict observation and full implementation", the formula agreed by Willy Brandt and Leonid Brezhnev in Bonn in 1973, means no more than that the Kremlin is reaffirming its willingness to stand by its treaty obligations.

This particular choice of words is in fact a reference to the provision of the Four-Power Agreement noting that while West Berlin may not be an integral part of the Federal Republic it should be allowed to maintain and develop its ties with Bonn.

The East bloc has always preferred to limit itself to a mention of the provision that West Berlin *does not form part of* the Federal Republic and may not be governed by Bonn.

Moscow's latest gesture does at least indicate that the Kremlin is interested in an improvement in the climate of relations with Bonn. There are three good reasons why this should be so:-

— At the forthcoming Belgrade conference to review the Helsinki accords Moscow hopes that Bonn will prove a force for moderation in the clashes anticipated over human rights.

— In the current East-West talks on various aspects of disarmament and arms control the Kremlin would like to persuade Bonn to be more forthcoming.

— Last but not least, Mr Brezhnev is due to visit Bonn, and as both General Secretary and head of State he will be anxious to achieve results.

So for a while at least there could be some relaxation of tension over Berlin.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 16 June 1977)

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HOME AFFAIRS

Public disenchantment with the parties is growing

There has been a major change in the Federal Republic of Germany's domestic politics.

Not too long ago, when a party made mistakes and lost sympathisers, the other parties had every reason to rub their hands with glee because they would benefit from it. But since last October's Bundestag election no party has any reason for rejoicing.

All of them cannot but feel that the political parties in this country as a whole have lost the public's respect.

It is almost as if no party could afford any more to gloat over another party's misfortune, since in the present situation one party's loss of faith with the public increases the inclination to accuse all parties of incompetence.

This curious change in attitude has rather deep roots. It is hardly a coincidence that all parties find it extremely difficult to arrive at solutions for the problems that plague us at present.

We must ask ourselves: Is it not possible that the fault does not lie with the parties, but with the problems? Perhaps we are confronted with insoluble problems or at least with difficulties for which there are no simple and straightforward solutions.

A certain nostalgia has spread among our politicians because they realise that the business of politics used to be a great deal more simple.

Granted, the problems were great even before; but at least it was obvious what had to be done. Take for instance the immediate post-war era when millions of refugees and displaced persons flooded into the country. There was no doubt as to what had to be done.

These people had to be provided with a minimum income and the opportunity to build up a new existence. And this in turn could only be done if the haves helped the have-nots. Thus the *Lastenausgleich* legislation (the equalisation of burdens) came as a natural and obvious answer.

Or take another example: Millions of housing units were destroyed during the war and population figures rose due to the influx of refugees. Once more the answer was obvious.

Housing had to be built as quickly as possible, and this necessitated legislation that would provide strong incentives for the construction of housing and the introduction of state subsidised housing for the lower income brackets. The parties fought over details, but in both these instances there was consensus on the main points.

The problems confronting us today are entirely different. There is above all unemployment, and everybody is agreed that something must be done about it. But the question is: what?

At first, it was generally thought that unemployment was a natural result of the recession and that it would disappear as soon as business picked up again. But then came the upswing — though a moderate one — and unemployment is still with us.

Meanwhile it is generally agreed that our joblessness is not only due to economic ups and downs but that it is of a structural nature.

One of the major causes of unemployment lies in the fact that commerce and industry (including the service industry), be they privately owned or otherwise, bought new machines and generally mechanised in order to offset the high cost of wages and replace manpower by machines.

And no one can expect business to scrap these machines in order to employ more people. Anyone doing so would be engulfed by the tide of rising production costs.

In this situation some parties act as if all they needed is to come up with a plan — as they did before. The CDU did exactly that, and the SPD is due to follow suit shortly.

But there are weighty objections to any plan attempting to cure the root of the malady. There is no simple solution in sight, and many experts anticipate that unemployment will rise inexorably in the next few years because there is no way of stopping automation.

Even the most massive of booster shots cannot provide the redundant book-keeper with a job, since this job has long ago been taken over by a computer.

Or take our universities. At the end of the fifties, when everybody in this country bemoaned the disastrous state of our educational system, there was no discussion at all as to what had to be done. The answer was clear: New universities had to be built.

In other words, this was a soluble problem and a few years later there were more universities built within a few years than during a whole century in earlier eras ... and everybody found that this was as it should be.

But today we are faced with many young people who are desperate because there is no university place for them or because — even if they were fortunate enough to be enrolled — they do not know how useful their education will prove in their future working life.

Our universities produce many more graduates than business and government agencies can absorb. There, too, we have no patent remedy. Business is not providing additional jobs, and the state has no money with which to do so.

Those who maintain that the state would simply have to raise more money misunderstand the situation. Government funds consist essentially of taxes paid by the citizens and by business, and business is already bearing a financial burden which exceeds its capacity.

This, in fact, is one of the reasons why business is unable to yield to demands for stepped-up investments. The novel thing about our present situation is that no one can any longer indulge in largesse where money is concerned.

And perhaps we have even reached a stage where providing large amounts of money is no longer a solution. Our present problems are different and more complicated than the *Lastenausgleich* or the construction of housing in the immediate post-war era.

It might be due to this fact that there are no simple solutions today. Money is, of course, one of the easiest solutions; but when there is not enough money with which to achieve something it becomes much more difficult to solve the problem in hand.

The present helplessness entails one danger which goes beyond the specific difficulties confronting us. No matter how annoyed we were in all these years with one party or another, we nevertheless always had a feeling that in the end the state would be able to overcome all problems.

But this faith now has been weakened. The more it becomes obvious that neither tomorrow nor next year will bring a solution to our acute problems, the more disappointed we become with the state as an institution.

Disgruntlement with the state is once more with us, reflecting our disappointment. This disappointment could grow to such an extent that demagogues promising radical measures might receive more support than we have been used to in the past thirty years.

We — and above all the political parties — must therefore not take this development lightly. The Germans do not like to be without leadership. They expect to be shown the way lest they become disenchanted. *Wolfgang Wagner*

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 11 June 1977)

The new tax package won't solve budgetary problems

The coalition government's compromise tax package has been passed by parliament with a mini majority, and the coalition has survived by the skin of its teeth.

Years of debate had left the tax package in sorry state and one cannot but shake one's head in amazement that the coalition should have risked its very existence for that sort of thing.

Although the coalition would still have had a majority of one even if three of the SPD MPs had voted out of line and if two or three had abstained (and it is unlikely that this package would be turned down as a whole by the Bundesrat notwithstanding a negative attitude by some CDU-governed Federal states), the Bonn Government would still have been better advised to withdraw from the very beginning a package which no longer meets the original objective of rehabilitating the budget which had suffered inroads as a result of the recession.

The plan to increase VAT goes back to a time when the Federal Government, during the recession years 1974 and 1975, deliberately and rightly took upon itself large budgetery deficits in order to help our economy back on its feet by the traditional instruments of growth rather than permit it to drift into a crisis.

The operation was successful, and the fact that it did not restore full employment has other reasons.

Of course, we are against tax increases on principle because every state — regardless of its political system — tends to be careless in its handling of money. But it must nevertheless be appreciated that the intention to bring our budget back into line by a two per cent VAT increase was a clean, logical and — before a Bundestag election — courageous financial policy.

But the fate of the package shows that the original goal of putting our finances on a sound basis cannot be achieved after so many years of tinkering.

Nevertheless, a rehabilitation could be achieved quietly and slowly if the governments (Federal, state and municipal) were to handle tax revenues, which have meanwhile risen smartly, with due care and thriftiness.

Increasing personnel in order to overcome (or help overcome) unemployment would obviously not fit into this concept. In other words, a thrifty spending policy in the consumption sector would reduce the necessity of increasing VAT.

The VAT increase, which has been whittled down from the originally envisaged two to one per cent, will do little or virtually nothing towards reducing the deficit. Incidentally, the reduction of the increase is in keeping with demands by the Opposition.

Rather than reduce the deficit, the one per cent increase in VAT will — after deduction of the usual millions for administrative wastage — help to finance certain worthy projects, of which the reduction of capital tax is the most disputed.

We favour such a reduction, but not at the price of increased VAT, which would be excessive in terms of social justice, cost-of-living index and future wage demands.

Of the DM5,000 to DM5,500 million which the extra one per cent VAT would give to Bonn and the state governments, between DM1,200 and DM1,300 million would be eaten up by the reduction in capital tax. Another DM1,000 million would be spent for increased child subsidies which the recipient, in other words the head of a large family, would have to pay back to the Government via additional VAT.

And what about the DM600 million set aside to alleviate hardships for divorcees? This misconstruction should have been corrected at the time it was brought into being by the faulty tax reform of 1974.

It is hardly justifiable for the state to demand payment through VAT for the overdue tax relief for provisions for the future (such as insurance payments, pension funds, etc. of the taxpayer) at a time when revenues are coming in swiftly.

The situation concerning the capital tax is similar. This was shortsightedly (because in the final analysis it hampers initiative and growth) increased in 1974. A correction of this mistake is a dictate of logic and does not require the state of the economy as a pretext.

And indeed, especially medium-sized businesses might find it most unattractive and burdensome to accrue capital. Sometimes the taxes on such capital exceed its yield if the investment proves profitable.

On the other hand, if — as in the recession years — there are no profits and the tax on capital has to be paid nevertheless, a business might see itself confronted with the necessity of winding up ... something it would not have done with lower taxes or if it were able to carry losses forward.

In other words, what we need for business is encouragement rather than discouragement. But there is no reason why the individual citizen should be penalised for the mistakes made in the 1974 tax reform by having to pay more VAT.

The 1974 reform was anything but the "reform of the century" as the former Finance Minister Möller called it.

There are other ways and ears, as for instance the offsetting of capital tax against income tax, by which the risk of higher VAT can be circumvented.

The Bonn Government could thus withdraw its present tax packet without anyone shedding any tears over it.

Franz Thoma

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 15 June 1977)

■ THE CHURCH

Thousands flock to Berlin for a new-style Church 'happening'

Hannoversche Allgemeine

We hope that the Church Rally will not be like a brief shower that leaves a few puddles which dry up shortly thereafter."

What Berlin's Protestant Bishop Martin Kruse wished for as the 17th Protestant Church Rally got under way was a long and lasting rain. Literally speaking, his wish has come true, and, metaphorically, there is also a good chance of its materialising.

The first impression of the multitude of participants who arrived at the Rally in countless private cars, some 1,000 chartered buses, special trains and flights was indeed one of a long-lasting rain in which many a visitor got cold feet.

A Berliner who had lived in the Rhineland for a long time remarked ironically: "God is Catholic after all."

But the Good Lord demonstrated that in our ecumencial age he is unwilling to be used as a pawn in the tug-of-war between the denominations. Thus, when it really mattered, St. Peter closed the floodgates, and the Church Rally passed its first test.

It was not water but 130,000 Berliners and visitors from all parts of the country that flooded Berlin's famous Kurfürstendamm boulevard around the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church.

The very fact that the people had flocked to Berlin in such masses prevented many of those present from gaining an acoustic impression of how thoroughly the Church Rally had changed in the course of time.

There were terse welcoming addresses and a couple of songs — some with trumpet and some with combo accompaniment. Gaiety rather than solemnity was to be the hallmark of the Rally. And in order to achieve this the organisers did not hesitate to copy the Munich Olympic Games and the Soccer World Championship.

Thus there was trumpet music rather than hymns and folksongs dominated. In fact, young and old alike sang the battle song of English soccer fans (When the Saints Come Marching In).

But even so, this opening ceremony was somewhat diffuse although, as was to be borne out later, it faithfully reflected the overall spirit of the Rally. And even the huge cranes with steel girders hanging from them, bearing the Rally's slogan and clearly marking the beginning and the end of that part of the Kurfürstendamm that was declared a pedestrian zone for the duration of the Rally could not mar this impression.

There were relatively few posters — one of them on the Memorial Church had an expanse of 250 square metres and showed a split globe, while another, mobile and considerably smaller, promoted a group of homosexuals.

On the opposite side of the street, however, there was an overwhelming mass of neon advertising which left no-one in doubt that it is usually not the God of the Christians but Mercury who rules the world. But this did not seem to bother the predominantly young participants.

The Church Rally was to provide them with their own "happening," and so they sang and danced to the music of more than 30 bands all along the so-phisticated boulevard ... the cash registers of the many itinerant vendors kept tinkling gaily until late at night.

Never before has the Church Rally been so confusing. There were 426 events on the programme, not counting those that were staged spontaneously.

It would have taken a single individual more than five years to attend all events. Confusing and almost frightening was above all the so-called Market of Opportunities where more than 300 groups and organisations presented hundreds of case histories as to where and how committed Christians in Church and society can give a helping hand.

Many visitors might have felt like the old lady from the GDR who, in the face of all this, asked in amazement: "Is all this Church?"

But who is to judge whether all that was presented at the Rally in actual Church work, missionary zeal, meditation and of course at stalls which could in the same form be found in socialist circles or at an oriental bazaar is "Church".

More important is the fact that most groups gratefully accepted the Church Rally as a forum in which to present their ideas to a broad public. The president of the Church Rally, Helmut Simon, said that this Rally exceeded all previous dimensions and that the Market of Opportunities provided a fine chance to those participating to actively cooperate in it.

What impressed were not so much the major and well known organisations under Church auspices which did not have to watch every penny in decorating their booths, but the small groups of true idealists who drew attention to problems which are otherwise overlooked with little money and much personal commitment.

It was easy to see that the Rally was not organised along the lines of a knitting pattern — knit two, purl two.

These young, socially committed Christians have leftist leanings. Christianity combined with socialism seems to be the new magic formula with which to achieve a better and more just world.

Excepting the demagogic slogans of the Prague Peace Conference, which spoke of Berlin as an "almost a colony of the Federal Republic of Germany", the whole thing abided by the rules of fairness and tolerance towards those with different ideas.

The Market of Opportunities was a huge fair of ideas with some propaganda and some one-sided and not fully thought-out emotions. This is one erea where future organisers will have to step on the brakes if they are to prevent this Market from becoming a maze that would only add to confusion.

The range of events in Berlin extended from the *Aktion Sühnezeichen* (Action Atonement) which was visited by SPD chairman Willy Brandt who bought the first five building blocks (for DM10 each) for an international youth hostel in Auschwitz via young Swabian farmers who tested visitors by computer as to the extent to which their personal habits pollute the evironment all the way to those young people who believe that a motorbike is one way of getting closer to Jesus.

The Church Rally provided them with a special drive-in religious service which ended with a count-down when the motorbike fans started their engines, revving them up as a sign of *joie de vivre* and as a hymn to God.

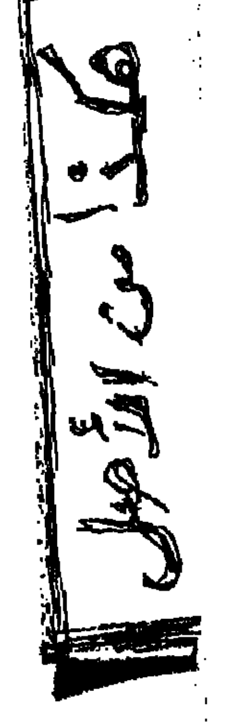
Is all this Christian tomfoolery? The Rally was not free of such nonsense. But it hardly matters considering the sacrifices in time and cost by the young people — more than 50 per cent of the participants were under the age of 30 — in order to take part in the Rally.

Some had to travel a long distance and stay in of large-scale protests — as 1969 in Stuttgart and 1973 in Düsseldorf — is over for Berlin. And the fact that no protest was raised against Professor Gollwitzer is probably indicative of the identity of interests between lecturer and audience.

But it must also be noted that the

Continued on page 7


A music group at the Evangelical Church rally in Berlin (Photo: dpa)



A 'Rally of Hope'

The German Protestant Church Rally in Berlin has turned into a "Rally of Hope".

These words, spoken at the closing session, aptly describe a development that became palpable at the great Christians' meet. The Church is headed from polarisation of progressive and evangelical trends marked by radical political tendencies towards more community and hence theology, because Christians demand this.

To counter the helplessness, loneliness and cold programmes of modern life people are seeking solace and strength in religion.

It became clear at the Church Rally that Christians are prepared to do something within their own small realm... this is important because it could help to loosen up rigid fronts.

But is the Church in its present condition — above all the strife-torn Protestant Church with its heavy political inclination — truly in a position to help on a large scale in overcoming fear and resignation?

It hopes to do so — particularly after the Church Rally — but there is a tunnel of uncertainty in this hope.

The Church Rally has provided some impetus and has surprised even the executive committee of the organisers with the great number of participants — more than ever before in the past years.

Equally impressive and unexpected was the fact that so many very young people took part and above all the sudden need of all age groups for church services, meditation, dialogue and spiritual help.

The spiritual element in the end dominated over the intended plurality of the Market of Opportunities with its more than frank bazaar of ideas.

The total courage to be frank ... the organisers found particularly ... is perhaps not as indicative as the ... opening up — one of the reasons for the polarisation within the Protestant Church.

All one can say is: "Perhaps". Leading churchmen have repeatedly asked what effect the Church Rally which, at least so far as the number of its participants is concerned, was a great success and conveyed the impression of peaceful harmony between young and old will have in the long run.

The chairman of the Council of the Protestant Church of Germany, Bishop Class, on the other hand spoke of the "misery" of empty churches and of the fact that young people did not attend services as well as the lack of community spirit in the churches.

Can the overcrowded and committed Berlin Church Rally change this everyday malaise of the Church? If not, all that would remain would be the memory of a gay, big and hopeful fete. No one has an answer to this question.

All this could be felt only in the atmosphere of the Church Rally since its enormous and intended super plurality blocked the way for a clear new course.

The excessively wide range of events and irksome polarisation, as for instance by Professor Gollwitzer of the GDR Bishop Krusche, made it impossible even for members of the Church Rally executive committee to accurately ... the overall event.

It was officially announced that objective and comprehensive ... cannot be provided and that only ... atmosphere could be evaluated. And ... was an atmosphere of togetherness ... giving rise to hope. *Renate Marbach*

(Kieler Nachrichten, 13 June 1977)

■ DEFENCE

The Tornado — skimming the treetops at the speed of sound

DIE WELT

Twelve aircraft at present undergoing a test programme in which they must prove point for point that they can meet the military demands placed on them by the governments in Bonn, London and Rome. These governments have recently approved a DM4,000 million order for a total of 150 multi-role combat aircraft (MRCA) dubbed "Tornado".

In 1979 these first Tornados will replace obsolete models in the Air Forces of the three major nations — among them the Starfighter, the Buccaneer and the Vulcan — thus increasing the fighting power of the Nato forces in Central Europe which are geared to the swift repulsion of an attack.

In the Federal Republic of Germany it is above all the Navy which is anxiously awaiting the new aircraft. Its one-seater, single-engine Starfighters no longer have the necessary high degree of performance in sea areas.

In anticipation of the two-seater, twin-engine Tornado, the Navy decided to forgo interim models like the F 4 Phantom which was designed close to 25 years ago.

In the Tornado, the work load resulting from an ever more complex electronics system is shared between pilot and observer, and the second propulsion unit provides more safety and a better performance.

Thus the Navy — Commander Dietrich Seeck was the first Bundeswehr pilot to fly the Tornado, even before his opposite number in the Air Force, Lt. Colonel Karlheinz Steuer — will be the first to be provided with 40 of the envisaged 112 aircraft from the first two lots coming off the assembly lines. The *Luftwaffe* will receive 212 Tornados by 1985, Italy 100 and the British Royal Air Force 385.

It is still unkown whether the aircraft for the German Navy will be quipped with the sophisticated electronics system that is to guide the *Luftwaffe's* Tornados securely to their targets at extremely low altitudes.

Granted, Navy pilots can fulfil their task at sea even without this "terrain following radar". But over land, as for instance in coastal areas in attacks against advancing armoured spearheads, they would hardly be equal to the job because without the automatic guidance system the Tornados cannot escape detection by enemy radar.

Only Air Force Tornados are expected to operate at altitudes below 60 metres and deliver their bombs on target — a prerequisite which has hitherto only been fulfilled by the American swing-wing bomber F 111, costing twice as much.

Flying virtually at tree-top altitude just below the speed of sound, the pilot is unable to react fast enough and avoid obstacles, but sophisticated electronic devices can do so.

The test programme to date, with more than 1,000 flying hours, has shown that even the prototypes of the Tornado come very close to meeting military demands.

They almost achieved the envisaged speed of 2.2 mach and the swing-wings have been tested in all positions and at all speeds. Moreover, there has been no problem in releasing outboard hardware.

The test pilots of the manufacturers and officers who have flown the new aircraft are full of praise for its excellent flying performance and its "easy-on-the-pilot" cockpit.

Great importance has been attached to easy maintenance and it is expected that maintenance time will be halved compared with such jet aircraft as the Starfighter or the Phantom.

In any event, the modern assembly line at the plant in Manching near Munich will begin production in September. The production target in the three partner nations combined is four aircraft a month unless export orders call for stepped up production.

It is hoped that the propulsion unit RB 199 will shortly achieve the full performance required of series produced engines.

Since the development of the aircraft and the propulsion unit began simultaneously and jet engines require one year longer before being ready for assembly line production, the economical three-shaft turbine still does not quite meet demands.

But the engineers are certain that this shortcoming will be long forgotten by 1979 when the first Tornados bearing Navy colours roll off the assembly lines.

Klaus Müller

(Die Welt, 14 June 1977)


The MRCA 'Tornado' (Photo: dpa)

'Robot' mine-sweeping system approved

The Defence Committee has approved the introduction of six novel minesweeping systems which are a technical breakthrough and have not been used by any other Navy.

The system, called Troika, has caused a sensation in specialist circles since it renders minesweeping much more effective than with traditional methods and at the same time reduces the danger to craft and personnel.

The sweeping takes place by means of robots which are remote-controlled from a control boat or from shore.

Each system consists of a manned control boat and three unmanned sweepers which are called "hollow steel remote sweepers". The cost amounts to a total of DM326.5 million.

The control boat operates outside the danger zone, and commands are transmitted to the sweepers by radio. The Troika sweeps a 300-metre wide channel.

According to the Navy, the system has been developed by German industry and is to be built by it.

In order to introduce the system, six minesweepers (class 320) must be converted to control boats. The conversion will be carried out by shipyards in Schleswig-Holstein and the lower Weser area.

The new construction of the hollow steel remote sweepers will be undertaken by the shipyards Blohm & Voss in Hamburg and MaK in Kiel.

Training will take place at the naval weaponry school. The six minesweeping systems will be assigned to the Fourth and Sixth Minesweeping Squadrons in Wilhelmshaven in 1980/81.

Helmut Berndt

(Nordwest Zeitung, 9 June 1977)

The X 114 hydrofoil (Photo: VFW-Fokker)

Bundeswehr tests the 'flying ship'

The thing looks like a cross between a flounder and a sports aircraft, and this is exactly how the six-seater flying, floating and hovering machine X 114 which is now undergoing tests in a restricted military zone in the Baltic behaves.

The unique vehicle, a hydrofoil boat, floats like a ship, hovers like a hovercraft over land and water and flies like an aircraft at altitudes of up to 4,000 metres. It can land on grass and concrete as well as on water, snow and ice.

Rhein-Flugzeugbau in Mönchengladbach (a subsidiary of VFW-Focker) where this "miracle craft" was developed under conditions of strictest secrecy, proudly points out that the X 114 has so far fulfilled all expectations. Even the prototype has achieved altitudes of close to 1,000 metres with speeds up to 200 km/h, a maximum flying time of 20 hours and a range of more than 2,000 kilometers.

Due to extremely low friction, operation is very economical while hovering on aircushions about three metres above the surface, be it land or water. In flight, the X 114, which is propelled by a four-cycle internal combusion engine with a stern propellor, needs about ten per cent more fuel than a similar sized conventional aircraft.

The inventor of this machine is the father of the delta-wing, Alexander M. Lippisch, who died last year. He recognised and made use of the inclination of power boats to "fly away" at high speeds.

The Aerofoil boat makes use of the surface effect: the delta-wing spans a vacuum in which, as the craft gathers speed, the inflowing air lifts it off the water. At the same time the air cushion stabilises the craft at a certain altitude.

The X 114 commissioned by the Bundeswehr is about 15 metres long and has a wingspan of 7 metres. Its designers place particular importance on the lowest possible weight and were the first to make use of fibreglass construction with enclosed air chambers. Even the six bucket seats, which were designed by Luigi Colani, are made of fibreglass.

The Rhein-Flugzeugbau hopes to have the X 114 developed for assembly line production by 1980 and to offer it to private buyers.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 7 June 1977)

■ ECONOMICS

Money is minted freedom, says Bundesbank head

Political independence is the key to the successful functioning of the Central Bank, said the new Bank president Otmar Emminger in an interview with the *Deutsche Zeitung*. And there was no threat to this autonomy, he added.

Deutsche Zeitung: The change in the presidency of the Bundesbank is marked by continuity since you have for more than seven years played a major part in and were co-responsible for the Bundesbank, having been on its board since the early fifties. But even so we would like to know what plans you have for the Bundesbank during your term of office and what changes are likely notwithstanding continuity?

Emminger: Since — in my capacity as vice-president of the Bundesbank — I have for years helped shape our present stability policy, it is obvious that I shall use my influence in continuing this policy. We have by no means reached our stability target. A 4 per cent inflation rate cannot be viewed as fully restored stability; no matter how gratifying such a rate might be in comparison with other countries.

Moreover, we have not yet overcome a certain inflation mentality in our country. Many expect and fear that production costs and prices will continue to rise year after year, and this obviously affects decisions concerning prices and wages.

In other words, our people want to make the ncessary provisions now against future cost and price increasess. And this resigned attitude with regard to prices and costs has in inflationary effect.

To counter this, the Central Bank must clearly and visible to all pursue a policy which will restore confidence in continuing stability. Business needs faith when making investment decisions — faith in a climate of cost and price stability in the years to come.

In this connection, the Bundesbank's consistent money supply policy is an important signal and orientation point. We shall certainly continue to have a money supply target in one form or another.

Deutsche Zeitung: The Bundesbank said recently that our stability policy still has to pass the test. This gives rise to concern and must perhaps be viewed in connection with the latest recommendation by Walther Hesselbach that the Bonn Government should exert more influence on the Bundesbank's monetary policy.

Do you believe that your stability policy will be put to the test primarily by developments in our domestic economy?

Emminger: The stability policy is actually being tested all the time. Inflation dangers can occur any time, both from within and from without. At home, the inflation of demands is not yet completely under control.

Though inflation has slowed down somewhat on a global scale, it can gather momentum again at any time. Incidentally, Goethe's saying that difficulties grow the closer one comes to achieving a target applies in stability policy as well.

But I do not see problems in a greater influence of the Government on monetary policy.

For one thing, the Government has always supported our stability policy and, for another, Chancellor Schmidt has only recently — at the reception in honour of our departing president, Herr Klasen — reiterated the independence of the Bundesbank, stressing — and rightfully so — that the interplay between Government and Bundesbank in our country's stability policy had functioned so well not in spite of but because of the Central Bank's autonomy.

Deutsche Zeitung: In reviewing the exchange rates of the major trading nations, do you find any currencies with unrealistic rates?

Emminger: The currencies of the major trading nations are floating freely in their relations to each other. The exchange rates are thus determined by market forces, and we could only speak of "unrealistic" rates if these market forces were to be distorted by unilateral intervention and manipulation. And this is not the case at present.

Although there is fairly heavy intervention in some currencies from time to time, the purpose of such intervention is to counter fluctuations in the medium range rather to bring about long range changes in trends.

Deutsche Zeitung: Thousands of bank notes bear your signature. It would therefore be interesting to hear from you *how you yourself see the mystique of* money, and what advice would gou give to others concerning the handling of money?

Emminger: Many times have been written on the essence — or as you put it, the "mystique" — of money. I have always had a great deal of respect of for money because it represents the results of Man's work and performance in a healthy economy; in other words, the freedom to choose what to buy for it.

The invention of money is one of the greatest achievements of mankind. Money has enabled us to break away from the narrow confines of bartering and has thus provided us with a magnificent instrument of freedom and social progress. As Dostoyevsky put it "money is minted freedom."

The longer I dealt with money — not only in our country but abroad as well — the more I arrived at the realisation that the condition of a country's currency largely reflects social and political conditions.

Monetary stability is a reflection of general social and political stability. The same applies in reverse. A stable monetary system contributes towards general social and political stability.

Concerning my recommendations to others, I would advise them to respect money at all times. And those who take part in decisions directly or indirectly affecting the value of money — be it in the field of government finances or in determining prices and production costs — I would advise never to lose sight of the effects their actions might have on this important social instrument.

George Bernard Shaw impressed me very deeply with his remark that the general respect for money is the only hopeful fact in our civilisation and the only thing that is sound in our social conscience.

Deutsche Zeitung: When you were vice-president of the Bundesbank you never gave savers any hints. Perhaps we could now ask the president to tell us which forms of investments the average saver should favour?

Emminger: Even as president of the Bundesbank it is not my place to give investment advice. But I can make one general statement: Despite the much reduced interest rates of the past two years, there are still plenty of secure investment possibilities with yields well above the present inflation rate, in other words with positive interest in real terms.

Deutsche Zeitung: We know that stability has been a mental attitude for you. But even so we would like to ask the guardian of our currency at which point for him — mathematically speaking — stability ends and inflation begins?

Emminger: No, it is impossible to give an exact mathematical point at which stability stops and inflation begins. Much depends on the direction in which things move.

Even if prices have risen by only two or three per cent, a strong inflation might already be in the making. This might not have its full effect on prices



Otmar Emminger (Photo: ...)

until the next few years. Such a situation, pregnant with inflation, existed in 1969.

In judging whether we still have stability or whether we are already in an inflationary phase we must also take into account the existence or non-existence of inflation anticipation.

Deutsche Zeitung: As a central banker you are known to view the European currency Snake with a certain aloofness. We would therefore like to ask you which conditions would have to be fulfilled to enable France, England and Italy to become members of the Snake?

Emminger: At the time I only said that the Snake, with its fixed exchange rates, could in the long run only function if the member nations keep resaonsable pace with each other concerning developments in the price and balance of payments sectors.

Otherwise tensions and disturbances will arise on the foreign exchange markets and the exchange rates between the various countries have to be adjusted.

We have had two such adjustments within the Snake since last October, and some member nations embarked on a more stability-oriented economic policy at home. The Snake has functioned rather well since then.

Concerning the countries you mentioned, namely France, Britain and Italy, the inflation gap between them and the Federal Republic of Germany is still so large that their joining the Snake with its fixed exchange rates would lead to monetary disturbances.

It is impossible to say at this stage when conditions will enable these countries to join the Snake. *Burkhart Salchow*

(Deutsche Zeitung, 10 June 1977)

Optimistic outlook for foreign trade



Growth impulses in the world economy are becoming stronger once more, said Minister of Economic Affairs Hans Friderichs during a session of the Foreign Trade Committee in Mainz.

Herr Friderichs pointed out that this country's exports are expected to increase by 7 to 8 per cent in 1977, which is in keeping with the increase in world trade as a whole.

The Ministry of Economic Affairs bases this forecast on the fact that some foreign trade uncertainties and trade barriers in some neighbouring countries can be offset by stepped up shipments to the oil-producing countries and to Sweden, Austria and Switzerland.

Purchases by oil-producing countries, which amount to 8 per cent of our total exports, already top our exports to North America and the East bloc.

According to the Foreign Trade Committee, trade with the East bloc is being hampered not only by import curtailments on the part of those countries due to balance of payments problems, but also by the difficulties in concluding barter deals that would be mutually satisfactory.

Exports to the United States have been very lively. According to the German-American Chamber of Commerce, the Federal Republic of Germany's exports during the first four months of this year rose by 14 per cent to DM5,200 million. Imports diminished by 3 per cent to DM5,700 million.

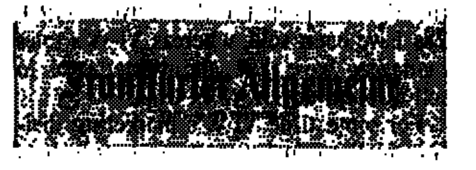
The Ministry of Economic Affairs welcomes the fact that, despite the somewhat restrained upswing on the domestic market, our imports are still rising at a greater pace than exports. Imports are likely to rise still further in the course of this year.

This natural impulse for the world economy, together with a growth promotion that is price stability orientated, is likely to be more lasting than short-term boosts of domestic demand and artificial import incentives.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 June 1977)

■ EUROPE

No viable majority in the offing for European Parliament



The directly elected Europe is on its way. But what sort of a Europe will it be?

Decisions concerning the modalities of the direct elections in the various countries, coalition and party constellations, are still too much in limbo to render the future predictable in any degree.

But sociological methods make it possible to establish with some degree of certainty how the political weight will be distributed in the European Parliament: The directly-elected European Parliament will be a pretty shaky affair. It will be very difficult to achieve viable majorities and political alliances.

These are the conclusions arrived at in a study concerning the likely distribution of mandates in the European Parliament after the direct elections, presented by the political scientists Rattinger (Freiburg) and Zängle and Zintls (Regensburg).

The study, which was commissioned by the Social Research Institute of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation which is considered close to the CDU, attempted to arrive at a forecast of the future distribution of mandates in the European Parliament on the basis of present majority relations in the member nations of the Community, taking into account differing election procedures and political changes.

The picture of the future Parliament has essentially been evolved in accordance with present national election laws, while the political changes that were taken into account correspond to changes in the individual member nations that seem likely in view of their present situation.

Moreover, the study simulates the effects of various feasible election procedures on the outcome of the election — a general proportionate election, a proportionate election with medium-sized electoral districts and a straight majority election — calculating the effects of small or large shifts (of up to 7 per cent) on the distribution of mandates in the individual countries.

"Lasting and coherent majority coalitions," said the author, "are not in the offing in any of the election systems simulated by us."

The only European coalition that seems likely in all instances is that between the parties of the present Socialist and Christian Democratic camps which would have an adquate majority against the Liberals, the European Conservatives which are primarily carried by the British Conservatives, the Democrats for Progress which are dominated by the Gaullists as well as the Communists and the Independents.

All other coalitions would be unable to counter the traditional differences in the political cultures of the individual countries as reflected in the European Parliament, by providing an adequately stabilising element.

This also applies to an alliance of Christan Democrats, Liberals, European Conservatives and Democrats for Progress.

Such an alliance would have a majority if the Europeans were to vote as they did at their latest national Parliamentary elections. It would then corner 220 of the 410 seats, compared with 124 seats for the Socialists (which would remain the strongest single party), the 47 seats of the Communists and 19 of the Independents.

But if one were to project present relations along the lines imposed by the political developments in the individual countries (slight gains of the Communists in Italy, gains of the French Socialists and gains of the Conservatives in Britain) this majority would dwindle to a majority of one.

If — excepting Britain — the proportionate election system gains the upper hand in Europe or if the Liberals tend towards the left centre this coalition, too, could not expect even a numerical majority.

Even slimmer would be the chances of a Popular Front coalition as the opposite model of such a middle-class bloc.

Quite apart from the fact that, due to the frequently reiterated determination of the German Social Democrats not to enter into a coalition with the Communists, such a Popular Front is politically unfeasible, it would be unable to achieve a majority in numerical terms as well.

If the present national election systems were to be retained, such a Front would not even achieve a majority if it were to be joined by the Liberals — which in any event is most unlikely in view of the present attitudes of the German Liberals and, even more so, that of the Liberals in other countries.

Only in the case of a straight majority election system and if the Liberal voters of the Federal Republic of Germany and those of Britain were to vote left would a Popular Front achieve a majority — and a considerable one at that.

But this would mean that a Popular Front could only stabilise the European party picture along its own lines if the European political landscape were to change to an extent which would be so extensive as to fall in the realm of science-fiction.

The study demonstrates with considerable certainty that this probable instability of the European Parliament cannot be changed, regardless of the election system used. A change could only be brought about by the formation of new parties which would transcend national traditions or as a result of fundamental changes in the minds of the electorate.

All this means that the Europeans' direct election will create such a depression in the political climate as to cause a storm which could upset the political picture that has prevailed hitherto — or the European Parliament will remain what it has been to date: a costly alibi.

Hermann Rudolph

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 June 1977)

Church rally

Continued from page 4

same young people who enthusiastically applauded Gollwitzer when he called on them to overcome our democratic society later attended church services and meditation hours.

With its thousands of participants, the Berlin Church Rally was not only the "Miracle on the River Spree", but an ever-new "attempt at frankness". Even such top politicians as Herbert Wehner (SPD) and Richard von Weizsäcker (CDU) could practise this frankness at the Rally.

Although Berlin was alive with rumours about an alleged meeting between Wehner and the CSU chairman Franz Josef Strauss, Wehner and Weizsäcker were seen engaged in a long discussion during a reception in Charlottenburg Castle.

The Church Rally has made many things possible that can no longer be taken for granted. *Ludwig Harms*

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 11 June 1977)

EEC dependence on Opec oil is decreasing

The European Community is gradually coming closer to achieving its aim of cutting its dependence on oil imports.

According to EEC Commission estimates, Europe's oil production on the mainland and in the North Sea will double this year, reaching 44 million tons and thus covering more than 8 per cent of the Community's total crude oil requirements.

This will enable the Community to cut imports by 5 per cent or about 480 million tons.

But the diminished oil requrements from Arab and African member states of Opec is also due to hoarding last autumn when the oil companies filled their tanks to the brim because Opec had announced price increases from the beginning of next year.

Last year already the EEC managed to double its oil production, although still lagging behind the forecast tonnage because the British North Sea fields were not always fully operational.

As opposed to the estimated 15 to 20 million tons, oil companies in all likelihood produced only 13 million tons of North Sea oil. Production is to be stepped up to between 35 and 45 million tons this year and to between 55 and 70 million tons next year.

Moreover, increasing quantities of Norwegian North Sea oil will become available and reduce Europe's dependence on Opec oil, although this oil will by no means be cheaper.

The Norwegian Ekofisk field produced 14 million tons last year. This year's production is expected to rise to between 21 and 23 million tons, providing work can proceed unhampered.

All in all, the EEC Commission anticipates that the EEC will consume 507 million tons of crude oil, which will cover 53.9 per cent of the EEC's energy requirements.

Oil's share in the overall energy supply would thus have diminished by 2.7 per cent since the oil crisis and the quadrupling of oil prices in the spring of 1974 in favour of natural gas and energy generated by nuclear and water-operated power stations.

According to Commission estimates, the entire energy consumption will rise proportionate to the anticipated economic growth by about 3.5 per cent this year.

Natural gas consumption is expected to increase by ten per cent, while demand for oil and oil products is likely to rise by only one per cent, and the consumption of coal will stagnate.

The Commission provides no detailed information on the share of nuclear energy (for generating electricity only) in the overall energy supply.

Although 11 per cent more nuclear energy was produced last year than in the previous year, its share nevertheless remains small. This year nuclear energy will at best account for 10 per cent of overall energy production.

The EEC Commission is particularly concerned about the steadily diminishing share of local coal in the Community's energy supply. It has therefore prepared a whole package of measures to be presented to the Energy Ministers, who have just met in Luxembourg, proposing that rising imports be controlled by means of "automatic import licences".

Moreover, it is intended to finance coal stockpiles to the tune of DM400 million over a period of three years, payable from Community coffers. The purpose of the measure is to support local mining and to create reserves at government expense.

But final decisions are not expected in the immediate future, although the Commission's proposals were in some instances tabled a long time ago.

Brussels pundits are not so much concerned about the fact that coal is being supplanted by other sources of energy as by the fact that the Community's mining industry is continuously losing ground due to coal imports from non-member nations.

It is estimated that domestic production will reach 231 million tons anthracite units this year, meaning a minimal increase by a mere two to three per cent.

Imports, on the other hand, will increase rather heavily, rising from 42 million tons last year to between 46 and 49 million tons in 1977. The coal mountains are thus likely to increase considerably this year.

Within the EEC, only Britain, which provides about 46 per cent of the Community's coal production, will step up production. All other member nations will permit mining to shrink further.

German mines will produce only 90 million tons anthracite units — 0.7 per cent less than in 1976.

This is particularly worrisome since the Commission believes that, apart from a "part of British boiler coal" (which is used in power stations) only "German coke" can compete with coal of similar quality imported from non-member nations of the Community due to production costs.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 13 June 1977)

■ AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY

Europe's planemakers jostle for position in sales battle with the US

Aircraft manufacturers in this country are keeping their fingers firmly crossed. Sales of their leading commercial airliners, the Airbus and the VFW 614, are proving sluggish.

The Airbus is built by Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm in conjunction with the French, while the VFW 614 short-haul jet is built by a company which is half-Dutch.

Be that as it may, recent orders show no indication of a breakthrough on the sales front in world markets.

The upshot in Hamburg, Bremen and elsewhere in the north of the Federal Republic has been short-time working in the aero industry, which is far from encouraging, especially as there is a very real risk of redundancies if the situation does not take a turn for the better in the near future.

The long-term prospects look none too bright either, even though the market outlook for sales of commercial airliners in the foreseeable future are anything, but discouraging.

Airlines will soon be needing a new generation of jet airliners to replace their existing fleets, which in some cases are getting on for twenty years old.

During the months to come, it was noted at the Paris air show recently, decisions may be expected as to who will clinch the lion's share of replacement orders.

There is no likelihood whatever of either *this country, Britain* or *France* going it alone on any new venture, so the decision facing airlines will almost certainly be a choice between the two US giants, Boeing and McDonnel Douglas.

These two, in their turn, will be able to decide very much for themselves when to launch whichever new model may take their fancy, and they will no doubt not be letting the opportunity pass by.

Boeing and McDonnel Douglas are major manufacturers by any criterion. Lockheed, the name you may have missed, are less important in this context because they concentrate on military markets.

Even after successive waves of redundancies Boeing alone still employ in their commercial aircraft division more than 45,000 staff, which is virtually the entire payroll of the sum total of aircraft manufacturers in this country.

Roughly one in two of the jet airliners flown by Western airlines and charter operators are Boeings.

Sales have not been too good in recent years because of a worldwide recession in aviation and the resulting financial pressure on a number of airlines. But Boeing are confident that sales are beginning to pick up. Sooner or later airlines are going to have to order replacements for their present fleets.

There is certainly a backlog in demand in the United States itself, which is the largest single market in the world. Eastern Airlines, the fourth-largest US domestic operator, plan to buy a dozen airliners a year for the next decade to replace their present fleet, the corporation's board chairman announced in Paris.

Eastern's major competitor on US domestic routes is Delta, and Delta will



not be able to stand by idly if Eastern decide to modernise their fleet.

In the United States competition is fast and furious even on short hauls; *which is more than can be said for Europe,* where Lufthansa, Air France and British Airways make no attempt to poach on each other's territory.

So if Eastern buys a new airliner, Delta will have to follow suit, and between them these two operators are potential customers European aircraft manufacturers would give their eye teeth to line up.

But McDonnell Douglas and Boeing are determined to defend their domestic market to the hilt, according to Dean Thornton, Boeing's financial manager, in Paris.

Mr Thornton was not mincing his words, since he considers the leasing facility recently negotiated by Eastern with Airbus Industries a potential intrusion on the US market.

On a trial basis Eastern are to run four Airbuses on Caribbean routes for six months starting next November. "That doesn't suit us one little bit," Dean Thornton says. He is not the man to cultivate the stiff upper lip where business is concerned.

This is the point at which his personal charm is reminiscent of the Western screen hero who is preparing to shoot an unwelcome intruder out of town.

Boeing will leave no stone unturned in the attempt to dissuade Eastern from contracting to buy the Airbus when the leasing agreement expires, and the company has a number of opportunities of bringing influence to bear on Eastern.

It is not just a matter of offering the US airline preferential terms if it buys American. Influence might conceivably be exerted via the banks and insurance groups which would have to finance the Airbus deal.

Boeing are currently in the process of stepping up their output. Instead of thirteen airliners a month eighteen are to taxi off the assembly lines, including eleven Boeing 727s, the model that represents the stiffest competition for the Airbus.

At present only one Airbus a month is being manufactured, and one a month is probably too many in view of the orders in hand.

So far only 43 Airbuses have been definitely sold, whereas Boeing have sold nearly 1,500 727s, albeit over a longer period, and McDonnell Douglas have sold nearly 900 DC9s.

These are both sales figures that no post-war European airliner has even remotely rivalled. It would be totally unrealistic to expect the Airbus suddenly to prove the exception and sell like hot cakes.

Yet the sales targets for the Airbus are modest enough. Sales managers in Munich and Toulouse would be only too happy, as would the entire aircraft industry in Western Europe, if only one firm order for, say, fifty Airbuses were to be placed by a customer such as Eastern Airlines.

The overall outlook is distinctly discouraging. The European share of world sales of commercial aircraft is declining steadily, while the United States already accounts for 85 per cent of world sales (excluding the East bloc).

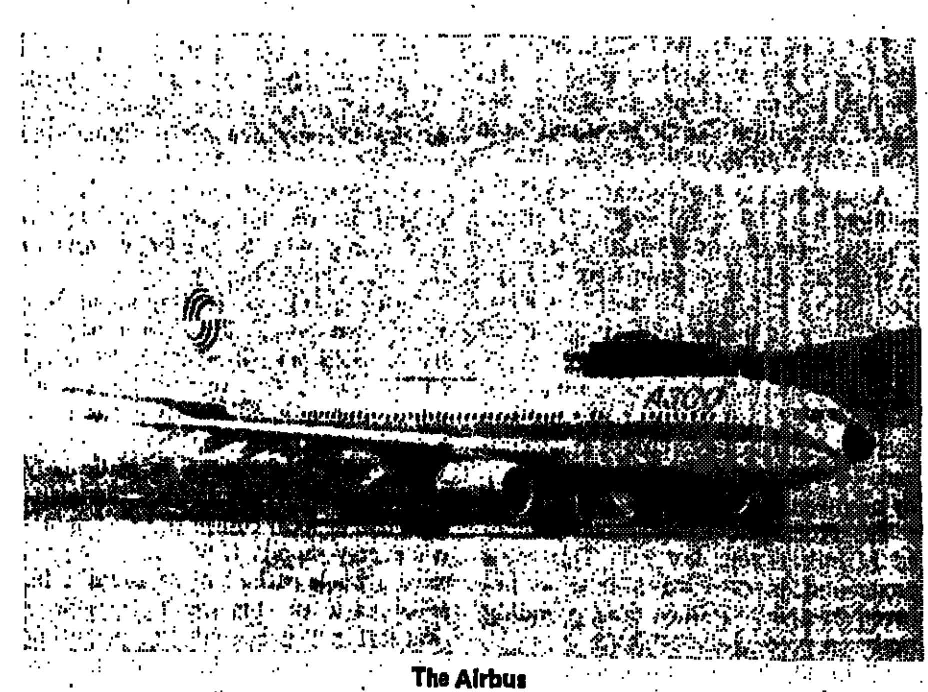
Manufacturers in this country boast only two models which look as though they might be going places. The one is Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm's Bo 105 helicopter, which is selling well and has boosted its *further prospects* by virtue of an agreement with Kawasaki of Japan.

The other is the Dornier Skyservant, a light aircraft that is finally starting to make a profit after many years in the doldrums.

But earnings from sales of these two models nowhere near offset losses incurred as a result of the failure of the Airbus and the VFW 614 to sell well.

The VFW 614 is a short-haul jet designed and manufactured entirely in this country. It got off to a promising start but sales have since plummeted.

Forty 614s were to have been sold to the US coastguard service, but this deal was torpedoed by both US and French competitors. VFW design engineers must have been galled to see the rival model flying the coastguard colours in Paris.



The Airbus (Photo: Conti-Press)

The VFW 614 saga is a typical instance of the way European manufacturers fight each other tooth and nail. When VFW and Fokker first merged, the Dutch side of the joint company made determined efforts to promote sales of the Fokker F 28 at the VFW 614's expense.

This may no longer be the case, but the figures speak for themselves: 119 F 28s have been sold, whereas VFW's sales managers have just about managed to sell a round dozen VFW 614s.

For some time VFW's marketing division in Bremen have set great store by a joint venture with Rumania, but here too it would be wishful thinking to be overoptimistic.

Rumania wanted (and still wants) to buy a number of 614s manufactured and assembled in this country, but Bucharest is mainly interested in manufacturing either parts or the complete aircraft under licence with a view to marketing the 614 in countries where the Federal Republic is unlikely to make a sale.

Contracts are to be signed at the end of June after years of negotiations, but VFW are anything but jubilant; a number of aspects have yet to make sense.

At the Paris air show the manufacturers of Britain's BAC One-Eleven, a slightly larger airliner, proudly announced that they have concluded a virtually identical deal with Rumania.

How on earth, the pundits are wondering, is Rumania, a small country with next to no experience on world aviation markets, going to succeed in selling in addition to its domestic output these two models that have proved such sluggish sellers in the West?

Rumania is obviously interested, and rightly so, in having an up-to-date aircraft works built and *jointly managed* by VFW-Fokker, but it *remains a mystery* how Bucharest is going to sell 100 614s especially the *fifty that* Rumania *claims* to constitute domestic demand!

What is more, Rumania has now contracted to market at least seventy BAC One-Elevens.

Visions of gaining a foothold in the East bloc look like being nipped smartly in the bud. The Russians, who have hitherto been unable to market their aircraft in the West, are no more likely than the Americans to tolerate competition on their home ground, as it were, from an aircraft designed in this country, even though it may have been assembled in Rumania.

So sales prospects look gloomy, to say the least, and not only for the Airbus and the VFW 614, but also for other commercial aircraft manufactured on this side of the Atlantic.

This goes a long way towards explaining the jostling for position with regard to sales of the next generation of airliners. It is a make-or-break situation with no quarter asked or given, and the Devil take the hindmost.

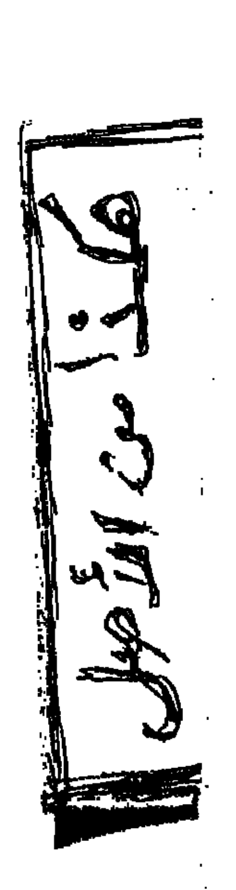
Britain and France would both like to launch a new project to refurbish their tarnished reputations in the aircraft industry, but neither is prepared to allow this country more than a minor role in any such project.

Last year the French were considering an arrangement with McDonnell Douglas, with Britain and this country featuring as mere sub-contractors. But the US terms have come as a severe shock to the French.

In Paris board chairman Sanford McDonnell reiterated that his company were prepared to cooperate with the Germans, the French or the British.

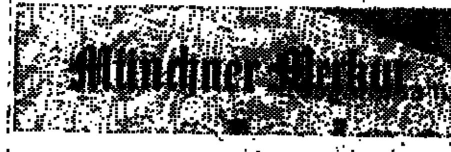
But the aircraft that resulted from a joint venture would, of course, be Douglas and, moreover, be marketed

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ETHNOLOGY

Ancient Roman town at Xanten comes to life again



"This," says archaeologist Gundolf Precht with a broad sweep of the hand, "is what Xanten looked like in Roman times 1,800 years ago."

Xanten, or Colonia Ulpia Traiana as it was in 100 AD, is a town on the left bank of the lower reaches of the Rhine, and Gundolf Precht is director of the city's Archaeological Park.

With a broad sweep of the hand he indicates a panorama of painstakingly reconstructed Roman city walls, fortifications, wells, cranes and pillars.

Each item has been erected true to the original outline of the Roman city stone for stone by masons specially trained in Ancient Roman techniques and materials.

The park cost ten million deutschmarks and was opened on 8 June to a Roman fanfare sounded on Ancient Roman trumpets by musicians in legionaries' uniforms.

A Roman repast was then served to guests at the opening ceremony. It consisted of a bowl of soup that was scooped out of the bowl with slabs of flat bread in true Roman style.

Colonia Ulpia Traiana was built in about *100 AD to the orders of Emperor* Trajan in order to keep marauding Germanic tribes at bay. But until three years ago the foundations of the Roman city were covered by pastoral fields and meadows.

Then the archaelogists arrived on the scene with bulldozers and shovels. "More often than not all that remained was the foundations, fragments of brick, potsherds and discoloured earth," says archaeologist Detlef von Detten.

"But that was sufficient to reconstruct what the second-largest Roman city in this part of the world, with a population of 15,000 must have looked like in its heyday"

Reconstruction has proved possible because the Roman city has not been built over in the intervening centuries. It is the only Ancient Roman city north of the Alps of which this is true.

In Cologne, for instance, successive generations built on top of the Roman city, making it impossible to reconstruct the outline of the city when first built, let alone to demolish the city centre in order to prove the point.

In Xanten the archaeologists first worked out the design and height of the original buildings, then built scale models in cardboard and papier mache.

Last year specially trained gangs of bricklayers were sent in to rebuild the city using Roman materials — stone from a quarry in Mayen in the Eifel hills that the Romans worked and bricks made in the traditional method.

Vistors can now walk to the top of a section of city wall 6.40 metres (21ft) tall and stand guard where once Roman legionaries maintained a lookout for Germanic tribesmen. Nowadays, however, all that can be seen is a herd of cows grazing peacefully.

The reconstructed towers are no longer arsenals, but a museum with finds in showcases. In the open air a section of genuine Roman water main can be seen in the vicinity of a well in which archaeologists found a bronze bucket embellished with scenes from the life of Dionysus.

Two columns dedicated to Jupiter *may not exactly tower to a height of* 7.50 metres (24ft 7in), but they look fairly substantial. They too have been reconstructed.

The two columns were originally commissioned by one Gaius Vettius Connougus in fulfilment of a vow to Jupiter and Juno. All manner of gods line the sections of column — Venus, Vulcan, Apollo, Diana and the gods of the seven weekdays.

Nearby two reconstructed Roman cranes demonstrate how the Romans hoisted heavy sections of masonry into position to build columns of this kind.

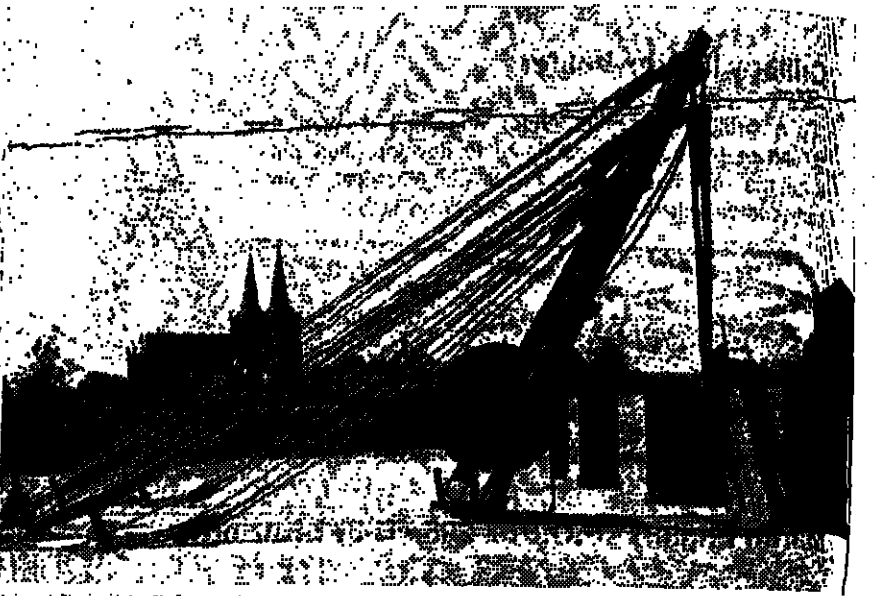
The Rhine used to run alongside the site of the Roman city, and near the reconstructed Harbour Gate archaeologists found the city's original cesspool.

This, says Gundolf Precht, was a really useful find. From the contents of the cesspit they were able to prove that the Romans grew peaches and hazel nuts, not to mention wine and oysters in the vicinity.

Grain and pollen survived in the midden, so *outside the city gates biologists* are busy growing Ancient Roman varieties of wheat and barley. Both are flourishing.

Christoph Rüger, director of the *Rheinisches Landesmuseum* in Bonn, which is responsible for the Xanten project, has even more ambitious plans. "We plan shortly to try breeding Ancient Roman pigs, horses and cattle."

At present visitors have to make do with refreshments provided at a makeshift restaurant, but before long food and drink prepared according to recipes handed down from Apicius, an Ancient Roman chef, will be served in a reconstructed Roman tavern. Chariot races and Ancient Roman plays will be held in the amphitheatre, while potters and silversmiths will use traditional techniques in reconstructed workshops. "We have no intention of emulating Disneyland", Christoph Rüger says. "Everything on show really existed. But we do aim to show that archaeology can be fun. Visitors must be able to gain an impression of everyday life in Ancient Rome."



A Roman crane at Xanten

(Photo: Landschaftsverband Rheinland)

It is still early days, however. Four million deutschmarks have so far been invested. Six million remain to be spent. They will be used to reconstruct the Roman streets and the Harbour Temple, not to mention another large building the exact function of which archaeologists are not sure about.

The park has been opened a year earlier than originally anticipated. "Last year", says Hans-Rudolf Hartung of the city's arts department, "175,000 visitors went round the site. We have had to enclose the site so that archaeologists can carry on with their work undisturbed."

At the same time the park is intended to raise funds for the dig. An entrance fee of one deutschmark is charged, and souvenirs are also on sale.

They range from reconstructed bronze statuettes and ceramic oil lamps to genuine fragments of Ancient Roman *bricks and tiles.*

"The Archaeological Park," says Herr Hartung, "is intended to be the first museum of its kind that requires no subsidies to cover running costs." He is confident that the Ancient Romans will prove a sufficient attraction to pull in the crowds.

Horst Zimmermann

(Münchner Merkur, 7 June 1977)

New light on early Central American settlement

The name of Dr Wolfgang Haberland, 54, chief custodian of the Museum of Ethnology in Hamburg, is frequently mentioned in connection with news of exciting archaeological finds and digs in Central and South America.

Dr Haberland recently returned from several months spent in Panama and El Salvador. He outlined the progress of this, his latest expedition, in an interview with *Die Welt.*

At times he made his way through difficult terrain by jeep or on foot. The humidity was intense, the heat well-nigh intolerable. He lived on a diet of beans and rice with occasional scraps of tough meat, but the outcome of his expedition proved sensational.

His main objective was a cave in the Morazan region of north-east El Salvador where, on a previous visit, he had discovered rock paintings at least 10,000 years old depicting hunting scenes in red, yellow and white.

Local archaeologists encountered difficulties in restoring the paintings, so the man who first discovered them was asked to lend a hand.

But Wolfgang Haberland is not the man to make do with a tour of past finds. Near the cave he noticed a small ravine that he felt sure must be interesting.

Tst digs soon proved his hunch was right. At a depth of thirty centimetres potsherds and arrowheads dating back to 1000 AD, but even more exciting finds were soon to be unearthed.

Small handtools such as scrapers, awls and knives lay strewn about, covered only by a few feet of soil. "Initial probes indicate that they date back to approximately 8000 BC, but they may be even older," Dr Hablernd notes.

As the dig proceeded Dr Haberland was intrigued by mysterious claims of local residents that there were "giant's teeth" not far away. Wolfgang Haberland, having learnt roughly where they were supposed to be, set out to find them.

He travelled by jeep through the mountainous terrain, walking the last few miles. What he found were bones and teeth of Ice Age animals such as mastodons, bisons and primeval horses.

A palaeontologist Dr Haberland met in El Salvador planned to explore the area systematically, but soon discovered to his dismay that local folk had plun-

Continued on page 11

Dr Wolfgang Haberland with a statuette from El Salvador

(Photo: Bernd-Jürgen Fischer)



FILMS

Constantin-Verleih plans to use TV to win customers

Frankfurter Rundschau

Several years ago, Ernest Dichter wrote in a study on the position of the German film industry that film makers had grossly neglected the public's need for entertainment, education and human contact between cinemas and producers.

Hans-Peter Fausel, the manager of the Munich film distributors *Constantin-Verleih* has now rediscovered these words. Says he: "I perused the book carefully from cover to cover."

Alas, Herr Fausel's financial scope in putting *Constantin-Verleih* back on its feet, heeding Dichter's advice, is rather limited.

Although Hellmuth Gierse, since 1976 the sole owner of Europe's largest film distributors, paid up the entire 20 million deutschmarks which *Constantin-Verleih* owed to banks, he provided very little cash with which to carry on.

As a result, the distributors had to economise wherever possible and cut their staff from 250 to 120 people. Considering that the company handles some 40 films per annum, each of these films must yield about 250,000 deutschmarks if the fixed expenditures of the company, amounting to DM10 million, are to be covered.

Says Hans-Peter Fausel: "The decisive criterion in picking a film is that it must pay." As a result it is unlikely that many progressive films — like Alexander Kluge's *Starker Ferdinand* (Strong Ferdinand) — will be included in the distributors' future programme.

As Herr Fausel put it, "We are not rich enough to be able to afford to act as promoters." Risks are to be kept at a minimum by handling films with a public appeal.

Cinemagoers liked *Constantin's* first film for 1977, Sam Peckinpah's war movie *Steiner* which Wolf C. Hartwig produced at a cost of DM15 million.

But one *Steiner* does not make a spring. Herr Fausel's international coproduction project confirmed his view that purely German subjects no longer guarantee a good turnover unless it is the tenth edition of the somewhat pornographic *Schoolgirls Report* or a remake of Ludwig Ganghofer's Alpine "down home" sagas. Says Fausel: "If they bring in a million deutschmarks, we'll make a few more."

Herr Fausel will be taking Ernest Dichter's advice literally by embarking on the planned club cinemas. For their admission fee these cinemas are to provide patrons not only with a film, but, above all, with sociability.

The first club centre is due to open its doors at the end of June in Hagen in Westphalia.

This new generation of cinemas intends to make use of its strongest competitor, namely television, by beginning the evening show with television's main news service, which would be projected into the screen or, in some instances, by televised sporting events.

Although *Constantin's* attention during the next five years will centre around feature films, the distributors nevertheless consider themselves part of a media group. Herr Fausel's attention is focused on the marketing of TV casettes of Constantin's 800-item film stock.

This is to supply German vacationers or German workers abroad with entertainment. *Constantin* is also interested in video films using the video disc — a subject with which Herr Fausel had to deal prior to joining *Constantin* when he worked for *AEG-Telefunken.*

Says Hans-Peter Fausel: "We must diversify in order to spread the risk and to make use of profit opportunities provided by new markets."

Above all, however, Fausel has declared war on the TV networks. He maintains that their movie programmes are unfair competition. As he put it: "I am generally cooperative, but I won't shirk a legal battle should the necessity arise."

Peter Dyckhoff

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 6 June 1977)

Continued from page 10

dered the site and were planning to sell the teeth for dentures.

Wolfgang Haberland's finds have shed new light on the settlement of Central America. *Homo sapiens* was thought to have crossed to the New World via the frozen Bering Straits 40,000 years ago, proceeding along the coastline from north to south. The first inhabitants of Central America are now known to have travelled inland too.

Dr Haberland has started to evaluate the notes he took en route and now hopes that El Salvador will lend him a number of finds for purposes of further research — and that the Hamburg authorities will enable him to make further expeditions to Central America.

Gisela Schütte

(Die Welt, 9 June 1977)

Scandinavian films for Lübeck

Feature films, short films and TV productions of all Scandinavian countries will be shown at the 19th Film Days of the City of Lübeck, scheduled to take place from 4 to 6 November.

According to the Lübeck Senate, the framework will be provided by a Scandinavian Exhibition, a retrospective film show and special programmes of children's and youth films, all of it devoted to the film-makers and TV producers of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

dpa

(Kieler Nachrichten, 1 June 1977)

Media Forum message was not always clear

Film, television, radio, newspapers, books, projectors and two-way radios are conveyors of messages and signals. But the most important media, namely radio, TV and the press, are no longer conveyors, but creative elements.

One must know the media in order to undertand them and in order to defend oneself against them.

The organisers of the Media Forum, headed by the City of Bochum and the Ruhr University, presented a truly full programme: three days of meetings of small work groups, discussions, exhibitions and demonstrations, going on from morning to night.

All this took place in Bochum's Comprehensive School, a building which is as fascinating as it is confusing with its labyrinth of corridors, which had a deterrent effect on many participants. Paradoxically enough, the road to the media was barred by communication barriers.

The most important events were the discussions on the audio-visual media (in other words signals which address themselves simultaneously to the eye and the ear, as for instance in the case of films) and youth, press and literature.

But the first debate under the slogan "Politics as Entertainment — Entertainment as Politics?" which was based on a socially relevant TV film swiftly developed into a fruitless slugging match over principles between the rostrum, which was manned by the TV moderator Hans-Jürgen Rosenbauer, and the audience.

The specialised jargon of the experts with which those actually addressed, *namely the young people in the audi*ence, were totally unfamiliar fell short of the mark. The young people left, leaving the experts to have it out among themselves.

It is curious and worth pondering that everybody understood what a film is all about, but that many were unable to follow the esoteric presentation of the subject.

The situation was similar where the printed media are concerned. Committed literature was, as a matter of course, accepted as beneficial and enlightening.

But as a mother of two sons put it: The proof of the pudding is in the eating and her two boys did not understand what it was all about... and why not? Because there is a gap between intention and execution.

Some events were no doubt helpful. But the Media Forum 77 was not entirely successful because most of what it presented was presented for an esoteric circle.

Peter Rudolph

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 6 June 1977)

In search of a compromise between business and art

According to critics, it was an administration like a kindergarten which brought the *Filmverlag der Autoren* (Authors' Film Publishing House) which was founded in 1970 to the verge of ruin in 1976.

But the *Filmverlag* is now determined to grow up.

As Matthias Ginsberg, the *Filmverlag's* new manager since the *Spiegel* publisher Rudolf Augstein acquired an equity, put it, "We have no choice but to retreat into attack."

Augstein bought 55 per cent of the DM600,000 company capital in February 1977. The other 45 per cent remained with the old shareholders, namely the film directors Wim Wenders, Rainer Werner Fassbinder, Uwe Brandner, Hans W. Geissendörfer and Hark Bohm.

What this self-help organisation did until its two managers Laurenz Straub and Welt von Fürstenberg left last autumn has been called "a bit homemade" by Ginsberg.

The calculable risk at the time the *Filmverlag* was founded got out of hand with its final turnover of DM3 million. But it is too late now to revert to being a small "agency".

Augstein's intervention made the *Filmverlag* free of debt, and the financial backing enabled Ginsberg to embark on expansion plans for the future.

The *Filmverlag* intends to establish branches in several German cities next year. Says Ginsberg: "Now we shall not only survive for a few years, but we will be in a position to make the investments we consider necessary. Herr Augstein, too, realises that the repayment of debts was only a beginning."

Ginsberg, who was trained as a publisher and was for a while the personal assistant to Augstein during his short-lived career as an FDP MP, wants to go beyond traditional forms of distribution and sale.

He wants to make the cost-yield principle a subject of discussion with film directors. Says he: "Everybody knows that a film is merchandise in our present circumstances and that it must adapt itself to the market."

In the past, only Fassbinder's *Effi Briest*, Bernd Sinkel's and Alf Brustellin's *Lina Braake* and Böhm's *Nordsee ist Mordsee* (North Sea is Murder Sea) provided turnovers of between DM800,000 and DM1 million.

Many other productions, such as Wim Wenders' *Im Lauf der Zeit* (In the Course of Time), earned only prizes and good critiques. And it is one of Ginsberg's firm convictions that a distributor cannot live by prizes and critiques alone. As he put it, "There must be something between pure art and pure business."

But the new man at the helm qualifies this statement by saying, "It must not be expected of us that we pull something new out of the hat within a matter of months."

The latest *Filmverlag* works, Fassbinder's *Chinesisches Roulette* (Chinese Roulette) and Werner Herzog's *Stroszek*, are a legacy of former planning.

To start with, Ginsberg wants to be on the lookout for foreign productions and make use of every opportunity to discuss scripts and casting with film directors.

This could lead to a conflict between art and box office.

Geissendörfer warned self-confidently when Augstein bought his equity, saying: "We sold our debts, but not our intellect."

(Kieler Nachrichten, 4 June 1977)

DM 4.6 mill. for film producers

The Film Promotion Institute in Berlin has awarded its 1977 subsidies of DM330,000 each to 14 producers of full-length German films. This was the tenth award since the Institute's inception in 1968.

The Institute has thus once more provided film producers with a total of DM6 million.

Overall subsidies since 1968 for the promotion of more than 260 films amounted to DM75 million.

In accordance with the Film Promotion Law, these subsidies must be used solely for the promotion of new German films.

dpa

(Die Welt, 3 June 1977)

■ MEDICINE

Psychotherapy can help women with hormone problems

Disturbances in female hormone production can be eliminated by psychotherapy providing they are due to emotional conflicts, fears and other psychosomatic causes.

This theory was recently propounded by the Freiburg gynaecologist Professor Meinert Breckwoldt during a congress of the German Society for Endocrinology in Travemünde.

In a number of cases involving women who, following a normal start to puberty, stopped menstruating again, it was possible to re-establish hormonal equilibrium solely through psychotherapy — even where disturbances had extended over long periods.

In otherwise healthy women disorders in the menstrual cycle are usually not due to hormonal disorders, but to emotional and neurotic conflicts or to emotional and intellectual crises in the maturing process.

In the wake of such emotional upheavals, hormone production decreases and ovulation fails to materialise.

The formerly customary hormone therapy has always been questionable unless this was linked with psychotherapeutic treatment. Professor Breckwoldt has now demonstrated that psychotherapy is the more important element in such treatment.

At the same time his therapeutic results show *the close meshing of physical and emotional functions which,* as an experienced physician, Professor Breckwoldt has always suspected.

But it is very difficult to describe these processes which take place in a very small localised cellular area of the brain, the so-called hypothalamus.

As the result of brain-physiological and biochemical studies it has been known for some time that emotional pressure in connection with inner conflicts, fears, excitement or severe depression releases a barrage of nervous sensations in the brain.

These sensations are transmitted via millions of nerve fibres — in some instances in a reduced and in others in an amplified form — in all directions. In the course of this process, sensations and sensation blockades leap from one nerve to another at the synapses (the contact points of the nerve ends).

In certain still not fully researched circumstances, these sensations reach the nerve cells in the cortex which pass certain instructions to the gland system of the body.

All in all, there is an enormous interplay of sensation and blockade through which the body maintains a balance in the metabolism — a constant, thousand-fold transmission of sensations of which we are unaware because the whole thing takes place outside the realm of consciousness.

And yet, this flow of sensations is usually subjected to a strict order by the ten thousand million nerve cells of our brain which is aided in this task by our subconscious.

This explains why the brain cells controlling the production of female sex hormones are not only stimulated by the hormone content of the blood, but can also be hampered by emotional effects.

So to speak as an "extension of the chain of command", the otherwise effective releasing substances of the brain's control cells fail to materialise.

This de-activates hormone production which is controlled by a sector of the brain. And once these so-called gonadotropines are no longer in the blood, no ovulation can take place, and there is a break in the otherwise closed circuit.

It has for some time been possible to test the functioning of this hormone circuit by means of a trick. The patient is injected into the blood stream with those substances which should actually have been provided by the command centre in the brain.

The reaction provides the necessary clues for a diagnosis. Either these "artificial commands" activate the brain centre controlling hormone production and thus production itself, leading to ovulation and menstruation — at least for a while — or the entire system remains unaffected by the injection, which is particularly frequent in severe disturbances extending over a long period.

Once psychotherapy has normalised the emotional influences on the control mechanisms in the brain — as for instance by resolving conflicts — the control centre gradually starts functioning again.

In case of light disturbances where the test injection fails to bring about ovulation, psychotherapy can lead to relatively quick results and the hormonal system once more functions as it should.

The psychotherapist has a somewhat harder time in cases where the disorder is severe or protracted. But even then, says Professor Breckwoldt, therapy is usually successful, and the ovaries prove *susceptible to stimulation. In somewhat* less severe cases, the test injection itself can trigger ovulation.

But all this only functions in those cases where menstrual disorders are due to psychosomatic causes. This involves a great number of women, thus making the new therapy method extremely important.

Moreover, this form of therapy provides useful insights into the complicated links between emotional and physical functions — links which are even more complicated in cases not involving hormonal disorders.

Werner Pfeiffer

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 4 June 1977)

Compulsory smallpox jabs to be abolished

The Public Health Ministers of the individual states have agreed to abolish compulsory smallpox vaccinations.

In his capacity as chairman of the ministerial conference, the Bremen Senator Herbert Brückner said in a press conference that a proposal to that effect put forward by Hamburg found the support of the conference.

Smallpox, he said, has been virtually eliminated throughout the world, thus making compulsory vaccination redundant. The sole exceptions are people who, as a result of their work in medical institutions, come into contact with the smallpox virus and those who must be vaccinated due to a smallpox alert.

The Ministers also dealt with the financing of improved outpatient treatment at university clinics for research and teaching purposes.

According to the ministers' ideas, national health doctors through their associations are to sign contracts with the owners of university medical institutions for the outpatient treatment of insured patients. Their work is to be paid for in accordance with existing health insurance rates.

An urgent task in the view of the Health Ministers is the securing of early treatment for handicapped children. To this end it has been decided to establish counselling departments in new social-pediatric centres which would provide a large variety of diagnostic and therapeutic facilities.

The Ministers also discussed the problems in connection with treatment in so-called high-pressure chambers. They called on the Federal Government to establish a work group jointly with the states, whose task it would be to examine whether and to which extent technical apparatus and installations, as for instance high-pressure chambers and dialysis apparatus, should be subjected to technical checks. *dpa*

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 4 June 1977)

Insulin-producing cell transplants help diabetic rats

Diabetics may in five years' time be treated by transplanting insulin-producing cells from the pancreas to the liver.

This theory was put forward by Professor Helmut Reme, Lübeck, chairman of the Association of North-West German Surgeons, at the Association's 119th congress in Lübeck, which was attended by 300 surgeons.

These transplants no longer pose any problem in experiments with animals according to Dr Klaus Dieter Rumpf of the Clinic for Abdominal and Transplant Surgery of the Lübeck Medical School.

Moreover, the transplant technique involved is relatively simple. The cells are injected into a specific blood vessel and are carried to the liver in the blood stream. These transplants can also take place in several stages and can be repeated as necessary.

Animal tests (rats) were convincing: diabetic animals were cured and damage sustained as a result of diabetes (kidney damage) showed improvement.

As opposed to other therapy methods for diabetes, transplantation has the advantage of restoring not only insulin production, but also all other functions of these cells of which it is still unknown which substances that regulate the metabolism they contain, said Dr Rumpf.

Another topic of discussion was improved cooperation *between* hospitals, clinics and private practitioners concerning the treatment of cancer cases.

Professor Erwin Ringel, director of the Psychiatric University Clinic in Vienna stressed the importance of psychological care for cancer patients and their relatives. He also considers it conceivable that emotional causes play a role in cancer.

Dr Stephan Langer of the Surgery Department of the Technical University of Aachen reported about successes in the treatment of intestinal cancer with a cold-probe. In some instances where surgery was no longer possible, the cure achieved through cold treatment proved effective even after five years. *dpa*

(Kieler Nachrichten, 7 June 1977)

Plenty of new ideas to chew over

The German Societies for Jaw Orthopaedics, Parodontology and Dental Protheses, and Material Research, met for a mammoth joint congress in Hamburg at the beginning of June.

The congress was attended by more than 1,200 delegates from the Federal Republic of Germany and abroad. The main theme was "articulation", in other words the interplay of the entire chewing apparatus, from the teeth to the jaw hinge.

An increasing number of recent tests show that disharmony between tooth contacts and the jaw hinge leads to considerable complaints and can damage the jaw hinge.

This means that in the case of partial or total dentures as well as in the case of fillings it is important to pay attention to the correct interplay between teeth and jaws.

But even healthy teeth can be disharmonious — a defect which dentists can correct following careful measurements by means of filing away small irregularities. The importance of specific disharmonies is still a subject of discussion among experts.

An important aid in the field of jaw orthopaedics (the use of which is spreading) is the so-called tele-X-ray, in other words X-ray pictures in which the entire skull appears as it it were made of glass.

This enables the doctor not only to obtain a clear picture of bone and flesh, but also to view the teeth within the overall interplay of articulation.

With the help of specific interpretation methods, these X-rays provide an exact diagnosis for corrective work and prognoses for the future development as well as serving as a means of comparison during treatment.

Experts are now looking into the question of providing better growth forecasts in connection with orthopaedic treatment.

Some important innovations in the field of therapy itself were also discussed at the congress. One of these innovations could replace the conservative clip by small locks for each tooth. These locks can be glued to the tooth and can thus provide an ideal bridge.

Dentists are now engaging in tests to establish any possible side effects of this procedure.

The question as to when such therapy should begin depends on the extent of the anomaly. Generally speaking, treatment should be completed by the end of the growing period. But in individual cases it is possible to treat adults as well.

There have also been some innovations concerning fillings. Experts are at present testing a plastic material which seems to be more durable and less conspicuous than such traditional materials as amalgam and cement.

Gisela Schütte

(Die Welt, 6 June 1977)

■ CLIMATOLOGY

The Earth may be heading for a new Ice Age

Our earth is at present well past the climatic optimum of the present interim period between ice ages, in other words, we are headed for another icing up phase.

For the temperate latitudes which are not affected by advancing glaciers, such as the sub-tropics and the tropics, this entails a further expansion of desert areas beyond today's limits.

According to the latest findings in the reconstruction of the climate of the past tens of thousands of years, the icing up phases of the current ice age (which has existed for several million years) — so far as continents outside the sphere of inland glaciers are concerned — had no rain periods, but drought periods, and the interim icing up periods had major rain phases.

This was pointed out at the latest conference of the Geological Association in Tübingen by Professor Michael Sarntheim of the Geological Institute of Kiel University.

Professor Sarntheim who, while examing drilling samples obtained from the ged of the Atlantic, found Sahara desert dush which had been transported far into the ocean, established by means of computer simulation of the distribution of precipitation during the latest icing up peak and based on available data concerning the expansion of active deserts during the past twenty thousand years how the climate has developed in the recent past.

Discussions about the development of our major deserts — as a key for the general development of climate — has become increasingly lively in the past two years.

This is primarily due to the fact that huge water reserves have been found below the Sahara — with its 8 million square kilometres the world's largest desert today — which must be of "fossil" origin.

Moreover, signs of a rich fauna and flora and of early Ice Age farming settlements as well as rock drawings of cattle herds and soil tilling were found in the midst of the Sahara.

The water reserves in the desergs are still being explained as the remnants of a major rain period which made the sub-tropics fertile during the glacier phase at the peak of the latest icing up period.

Precipitation of that phase was stored in the form of the water table and in the formerly much larger lakes on the edge of the Sahara, where they remained as reserves for the drier millenniums following the icing up phase (in other words for today's assumed interim period between icing up phases.

Many scientists believe that the Sahara was turned into a desert by Man due to its having served as pasture for large herds of cattle during the early Stone Age. The cattle destroyed the vegetation, which led to erosion of the soil and thus to the dunes of today's desert.

But this view has been rebutted by our modern possibilities of accurately dating water tables and geological as well as archaeological objects.

These dating methods have made the recent development of the earth — the tens of thousands of years that served as a transition from the Ice Age to the present — absolutely clear and enable us to realistically reconstruct Man's environment and the changes it has undergone.

According to these findings, the icing up phases of the Ice Age were not the major rain periods as had been thought hitherto.

Thus Professor C. Sonntag, Heidelberg, speaking on behalf of a team of German and Egyptian geologists and physicists, reported at the Tübingen meeting that the large reserves of the deep water table in the Sahara are more than twenty thousand years old.

This means that they originated in the previous interim icing up period when, during a wet phase, westerly winds carried precipitation-laden air masses from the Atlantic into the interior of the Sahara.

The peak of the last icing up phase 18,000 years ago was, however, a dry period. For some 14,000 years there has been a succession of dry and wet phases.

Two English geographers, Drs F.A. Street and A.T. Grove, Cambridge, who recently reported about the development of the water level of African lakes, arrived at essentially similar conclusions, although with certain shifts in the phases which might be due to the fact that the water level of major lakes is slow to adapt itself to meteorological developments.

This new picture coincides with the results arrived at by Professor Sarntheim, who collected all available data about the distribution of active sand dunes throughout the world 18,000 years ago, 6,000 years ago and today, comparing them with computerised climate reconstruction of precipitation at that time.

According to climate information resulting from numerous deep-sea drillings and samples examined over the past ten years, the earth's temperature on a global scale was at its lowest point 18,000 years ago and the extent of continental ice and the ice cover of the oceans was at its peak.

On the other hand, the warming up period of the present interim period between icings up reached its peak 6,000 years ago.

At the peak of the icing up period all desert areas extended towards the Equator far beyond their limits of today. The Sahara reached the tropical East Africa of today, the Kalahari extended virtually as far as the Equator and Australia's central desert covered the entire continent.

Northern Patagonia, Paraguay and South-west Brazil were covered with sand dunes as were the prairies of North America. In a northerly direction, too, the Sahara extended beyond the Atlas mountain range. At least one-third if not half of the continental area covered by ice was desert at the height of the icing up period.

The remainder of the earth's surface had only sparse vegetation, similar to the Sahel region today. In other words, it was semi-desert.

The same applies for the Amazon basin and Indonesia which at that time was not a chain of islands, but a huge land mass because the sea level was about 80 metres lower than today and the entire shelf around these islands lay above sea level.

During the warming up peak in the post icing up phase, the vast areas with active dunes had virtually disappeared, as for instance in Northern Alaska and in central North America.

There are indications that the transition from desert to fertile land took place very rapidly, often within a few hundred years.

Today's distribution of deserts with active dunes and their expansion is very similar to that at the peak of the icing up period — even though they have not yet reached the extent of 18,000 years ago.

In other words, the climate is clearly developing towards another cooling off period. The expansion of the deserts always seems to have preceded the expansion of the continental ice cover, and, vice versa, the contraction of the deserts preceded the melting of the ice cover.

This means that a new icing up period might be closer at hand than generally assumed and that the warm and moist interim period is definitely nearing its end — although this could take several centuries, if not thousands of years.

But taking the irregularity of climatic changes in the icing up period into account, it is not necessarily mean that a climatic setback must inevitably lead to a new icing up period.

In any event, the fact that the expansion of deserts today has more similarity with an icing up peak than with a warm period peak must be taken as a sign that there are "drought phases of continental magnitude in store."

How fast diminished precipitation leads to an expansion of deserts is borne out gy the fact that during the late Middle Ages Portuguese seafarers observed monsoon summer rains along the African coast 6° of latitude further north than today.

In any event, it will no longer be possible to blame Man for the Sahara desert.

Harald Steinert

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 1 June 1977)

Map-drawing over the centuries on show at Wolfenbüttel

In order to preserve European cultural heritage at its place of origin, the Society of Friends of the Prince August Library began several years ago turning Wolfenbüttel into a centre of research and cultural life.

The Society has been promoting and has financially supported the activities of the Library for the past six years.

At the Society's annual meeting at the beginning of June, its newly re-elected president, Kurt Lindner, said that the Library and Wolfenbüttel were well on their way to becoming a unique centre of research in the field of the humanities.

Since its founding the Society has provided close to DM400,000 for the Prince August Library and its transformation into a research centre.

The Society's membership rose from 260 in 1972 to 600 today.

The Society promotes the research objectives of the Library, supports the publication of works and the collection of manuscripts, books and graphic works. It also promotes scientic symposiums, congresses and guest seminars as well as concerts, lectures and exhibitions in the Library.

Thus for instance the Library has arranged an exhibition which will remain open until 27 September and the theme of which is "Cartography of the Renaissance".

This exhibition provides an insight into the Library's vast and unique collection of cartographic works.

The exhibition shows the development of cartography from late antiquity via the Ptolemeian view of the world to modern cartography which was put on a scientific basis in the 16th century.

In this development, the Renaissance represents a focal point where tradition and new scientific insights meet.

This is clearly demonstrated by the large collection of the Library's 16th century maps and charts. *Gerd Gröne*

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 7 June 1977)

■ OUR WORLD

Vietnamese orphans village faces financial problems

Frankfurter Neue Presse

Oberhausen Peace Village's tenth anniversary on June 4 was not an occasion for the customary flights of self-indulgent complacency and congratulation.

The village, a private charity that currently looks after some 150 Vietnamese orphans, mostly disabled, has run into serious financial difficulties.

In-fighting among the organisers bedevilled the village for years before internal squabbles were finally settled last year, but now the chicken has come home to roost.

"We are on the brink of the threshold at which well-meaning humanitarian aid becomes inhumanity and indifference," Herr Peters, chairman of the Peace Village executive committee, claimed in connection with the jubilee.

Ninety of the 150 Vietnamese orphans live at the village in Oberhausen, which is well known abroad and enjoys considerable financial support from neighbouring Holland, and many of them have reached an age at which it is high time they started learning a trade.

Most of them are disabled, and training courses cost between 2,500 and 4,500 deutschmarks a month each, which means that the Peace Village, which is a private charity and in no way backed by public funds, will need to raise 550,000 deutschmarks a year until 1980 at least.

Yet donations have steadily declined since the end of the Vietnam war and although the village has a budget of two and a half million marks this year, sooner or later expenditure is going to overtake revenue in seven-league boots.

"Expenditure has reached a level that threatens to exceed our financial resources," says Herr Peters. "What may happen when we are no longer able to meet our financial commitments I hate to think."

At the North Rhine-Westphalian Ministry of Labour and Social Security in nearby Düsseldorf officials take a different view.

"Peace Village officials have spent too long concentrating on internal difficulties instead of approaching the authorities with a view to securing the financial backing the youngsters will undoubtedly need," an official comments.

Legally the Vietnamese orphans are not entitled to vocational training grants, but once the Ministry of Labour knows what is required it will be more than willing to cut through the red tape and lend a hand.

The Ministry reckons to be willing to help "as soon as we know what is needed in detail." So it is up to the Peace Village to start the ball rolling.

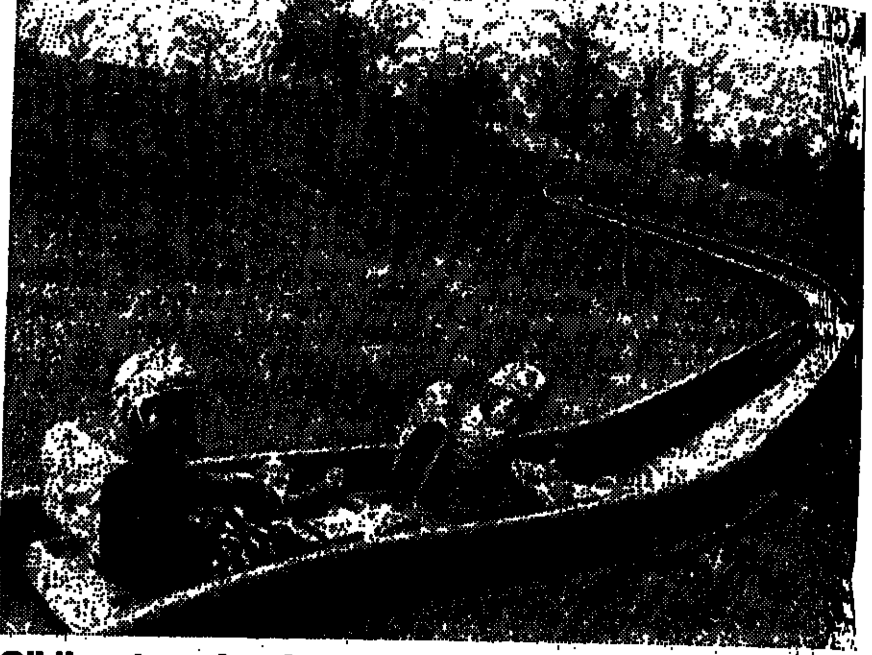
The village was proposed in June 1967 during a Protestant Church assembly in Oberhausen. War in the Middle East was imminent and the idea was to help the children — the innocent victims of fighting everywhere.

Before much had been achieved in the way of progress an armistice had been signed in the Middle East, but Vietnam remained a war zone in which *help was needed and could be given.*

The first group of disabled Vietnamese orphans moved into the village in autumn 1967, the village having been set up with the aid of generous donations by institutions, industry and the general public.

Medical and social rehabilitation programmes were carried out in the years that followed not only in Oberhausen, but also in Vietnam itself. *dpa*

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 4 June 1977)



Sliding to school

By the seat of their pants and at a speed of 50 kph . . . that's how Ingo Bauer, aged six, and his ten-year-old girlfriend Monika literally "slide" their way down to school each day. They both live on the slopes 300 metres above Lake Schlier where Ingo's father has a hotel. And there, for the entertainment of his guests, Mr Bauer has built a 1,000 metre long toboggan slide, the longest in the world, at a cost of 100,000 deutschmarks. The run, built of plastic, has 30 little "bobcarts", which have been MoT-tested and are equipped with brakes. Passengers pay four deutschmarks per trip, which includes a lift to the top. But, of course, Ingo and Monika travel free. (Photo: [illegible])

Don't let young children travel alone, parents warned

Caritas and *Diakonisches Werk*, the Roman Catholic and Protestant welfare organisations that run missions for travellers at main railway stations all over the country, regularly issue warnings to parents in advance of the summer holidays.

They never cease to be amazed at the foolhardiness with which parents send children of school age from one end of the country to the other by rail entirely on their own.

Nearly 20,000 children a year end up in the care of station missions. One in five is classified as a runaway, a child who has whetted his or her appetite for travel and has decided to leave home and see the world.

The other four, who cannot be classified as in any way delinquent, only go to show that parents do not appreciate that children are not miniature grown-ups. They turn up at railway stations lost, helpless and at their wits' end. They are only too obviously kids who badly need reassurance *and a helping hand.*

— They include six-year-olds sent on journeys of up to 500 miles on their own. The children were expected to change trains twice on their own, but missed their connections and were stranded.

— Eight-year-olds were parched with thirst and had taken the opportunity of a stop at a station en route to dash along the platform to buy a soft drink, but when they returned they found the train had left without them.

— Nine-year-olds were sent on their own to visit relatives for a holiday, but when they arrived at their destination there were no uncles and aunts waiting to collect them.

— Twelve-year-olds who were obviously a little too independent for their age have been known to frequent clip joints and the like while waiting for a connection at main stations en route.

Caritas says that parents are invariably flabbergasted when they are rung up by the station mission. They claim to have given their children detailed instructions before they were allowed to set out on the journey.

Station missions have the following recommendations to make:

— Children under the age of eight should never be sent on long journeys on their own.

— The only exception is [illegible] where air hostesses can keep an eye on the children and see to it that they are safely delivered at the other end.

— Older children can be sent on lengthy train journeys on their own only if they are not required to change trains and there is someone at the other end to collect them.

— An important point to remember: that children should always be provided with an ample supply of food, drink and sweets to keep them happy en route.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 3 June 1977)

Continued from page 8

clusively by McDonnell Douglas. The proposed arrangement with European manufacturers would, he vaguely noted, be a consortium of one kind or another.

Sanford McDonnell may be more courteous in his choice of words than Boeing's Dean Thornton, but when it comes down to brass tacks There is little or nothing to choose between them.

Boeing have not even bothered to suggest a consortium or any such arrangement. The only feeler Boeing have put out in this direction is aimed primarily at inducing manufacturers in this country to persuade Lufthansa, which buys Boeing anyway, to buy more.

Boeing are the only manufacturers to have two models in the pipeline in anticipation of future demand. Airlines are being offered two new Boeings, one seating between 130 and 160 passengers, the other between 180 and 220.

Depending on the outcome of talks with potential buyers one model or the other will be manufactured before long.

To meet demand for the smaller of the two, McDonnell Douglas are playing for time by proposing to manufacture an extended version of the DC9, while in the higher seating bracket a medium-sized jumbo or vest-pocket DC10 is envisaged.

Europe's planemakers

Airbus salesmen will have to meet this challange. Customers have noted often enough in recent months that a 200-seater model would be more in keeping with their requirements than the Airbus as it now stands.

But design changes at this stage would mean a further burden on taxpayers in both this country and France, who have so far invested roughly 1,150 million deutschmarks between them in the Airbus project.

In order to ease the burden a further attempt is being made to persuade Britain to cooperate in the project.

In reality, however, a genuine European joint venture, which alone would stand the slightest chance of taking up the US challenge, is a more remote prospect now than ever.

Neither this country nor Britain nor France can possibly afford to go it alone, yet this did not seem to discourage French manufacturers from lobbying their government at the Paris air show to reconsider the possibility.

Britain currently sounds more interested in bilateral talks with the United States than in closer cooperation with Western Europe.

Britain certainly seems to feel it can afford to maintain surplus capacity in the aircraft industry, which boasts a payroll of 200,000, or twice as many as the French; who could well do with cutting down on manpower too.

The French aircraft industry in its turn employs roughly twice as many operatives as its counterpart in this country. But both Britain and France are reluctant to wield the axe because of trade union pressure.

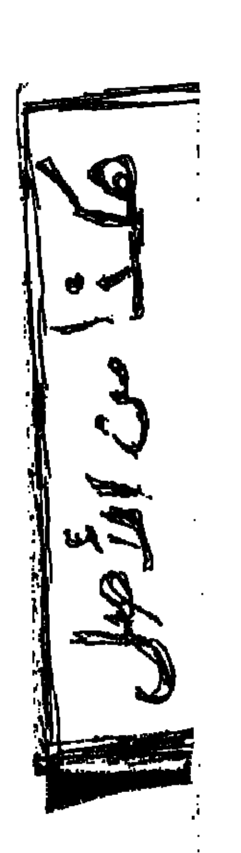
Both the clash of interests within Western Europe and the outlook of the two leadings US manufacturers make a two-way traffic between America and Europe extremely difficult.

Yet two-way traffic remains Bonn's target for the aviation industry. It was outlined by Chancellor Schmidt at the London summit and expressly approved by President Carter.

But future negotiations alone will tell whether what Mr Carter had to say amounted to more than fine words.

Dieter Tasch

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 11 June 1977)



■ SPORT

Porsche wins in thrilling finish at Le Mans

Porsche won this year's punishing 24-hour race at Le Mans by dint of planning that would have done a staff college credit.

Jacky Ickx of Belgium, Jürgen Barth of Bietigheim, Württemberg, and Hurley Haywood of the United States between them drove the last of three works Porsches through to a nerve-racking, but successful, finish.

The other two works Porsches, driven by Rolf Stommelen of Cologne and Henri Pescarolo of France were forced to retire with engine trouble earlier in the race.

The finish could hardly have been more of a nail-biter. With three quarters of an hour to go in the round-the-clock race Hurley Haywood limped into the pits with a lead of seventeen laps.

The mechanics diagnosed cylinder trouble and cut out the offending cylinder, but it was not until 37 minutes later that Jürgen Barth took the wheel and crawled round the course for two laps as a snail's pace, just maintaining the Porsche's lead over the Renault that had steadily been catching up while the ailing Porsche languished in the pits.

The Porsche was given a standing ovation by a sporting crowd of 150,000 spectators. It came in ahead of a Renault Mirage driven by Schuppen and Jarier of Australia and France respectively and a Porsche 935 driven by Gregg and Ballotlena of the United States and France.

The outcome of the race appeared to have been decided when, with four hours to go, the last works Renault, driven by Patrick Depailler and Jacques Laffite, both of France, stopped dead in its tracks when the engine exploded. The Renault was in second place at the time.

Three hours earlier Jean-Pierre Jabouille, who was well in the lead at the wheel of a Renault 'Alpine', was also forced to retire because of engine trouble.

So it was victory again for Jacky Ickx, his fourth win at Le Mans. The only driver ever to equal this feat was Olivier Gendebien, also of Belgium, in the early sixties.

As for Jürgen Barth, the 31-year-old son of former European touring champion 'Edgar' Barth, the Le Mans win marked the climax of his career so far.

In the past he has done well as a private entry, but this time Porsche board chairman Dr Ernst Fuhrmann gave Barth, who works in Porsche's Stuttgart press department, the opportunity he had been hoping for to take the wheel as a works driver.

Since Porsche are not defending the sports car world championship title this season and the manufacturers' world championship title has become meaningless because there is no competition, the Stuttgart firm decided this year to concentrate entirely on Le Mans.

Managing director Fuhrmann was in charge of the pits, aided and abetted by other senior managers, and he proved a brilliant tactician.

So many works entries had to retire that at one stage it looked as through privately-entered Porsches might win the day.

But it proved an unlucky day for the Loos stables of Cologne. Their first Porsche had to retire with engine trouble after three hours.

But with eighteen hours gone their second Porsche, driven by Tim Schenken of Australia, Hans Heyer of this country and Toine Hezemans of Holland, was clear of the rest of the field. Then it too was laid low by engine trouble in a race that has demanded the utmost of cars, drivers and mechanics for over half a century. *sid*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 13 June 1977)

Sports League approves new charter

Nordwest-Zeitung

Agreement was reached at Baden-Baden on a charter for top-flight athletes. It came at the end of a heated debate between members of the executive committee of the German Sports League (DSB), which represents fourteen million members of affiliated sports clubs and associations all over the country.

The six-point document is in fact headed a Declaration of Principle on Competitive Sport, but DSB president Willi Weyer termed it a "constitution designed to protect the top-flight athlete."

Perhaps even more to the point, it has been dubbed the anti-doping charter because it incorporates a commitment to forgo the use of drugs to attempt to influence the outcome of a competition or for body-building in field athletics and the like.

The declaration was approved unanimously except for an abstention on behalf of the Ice Skating Association by its president, Herbert Kunze, who advocated even more far-reaching measures.

Herbert Kunze was general secretary of the organising committee for the Munich Olympics in 1972 and undoubtedly knows a thing or two about doping. "Some people," he told a shocked gathering, "are behaving as though nothing of the kind even happened at Montreal or earlier."

Herr Kunze issued an incisively-worded statement calling for a ban on everyone who has ever had anything to do with doping or manipulation of one kind or another in sport in this country.

Willi Weyer called in his report to the committee for a humane attitude towards sport. He noted that the six-point declaration is binding on everyone associated with competitive sport.

Provided it is strictly observed, the declaration should make it extremely difficult, to say the least, for top-flight athletes or their aides to resort to prohibited drugs or the like.

Its six points are as follows:—

1. Organised sport in this country will stand by its commitment to humane sport at all levels and in all sectors.

2. It is in favour of competitive sport and international encounters up to and including the Olympic Games, but only on the basis of equality of opportunity and the observation of humane principles.

3. The main emphasis must be on athletes themselves and on the provision of training, medical and educational facilities, with the term educational referring to motivation and psychological build-up.

4. Provision must be made for the athlete's social well-being and welfare as a matter of priority.

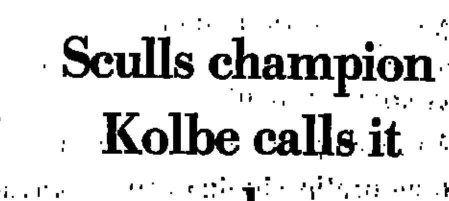
5. Medical and pharmaceutical means of bringing influence to bear on the athlete's performance are rejected, as is technical manipulation in other ways. Both are deemed irreconcilable with the athlete's human dignity and contrary to the purpose of sporting activity, quite apart from the harmful side-effects they may entail.

6. State and society are called on to help promote top-flight sport on the understanding that organised sport must retain its independence.

The outcome of the Baden-Baden conference marks a conclusion for the time being of the reappraisal of competitive sport in this country along lines that Willi Weyer has clearly outlined. "We must not," he is on record as saying, "aim at winning medals at any price."

K. A. Scherer

(Nordwest Zeitung, 13 June 1977)



Sculls champion Kolbe calls it a day

Peter-Michael Kolbe, the 23-year-old single sculls world champion and silver medallist at Montreal, has decided to retire. "I am calling it a day," the trainee engineering salesman from Hamburg announced on 10 June.

The weekend's races at Ratzeburg international regatta were his last. His decision to retire from competitive racing came as a complete surprise.

"Top-flight oarsmanship is no longer fun," Kolbe explained. "I am sick and tired of the trouble I keep having with officialdom."

He had refused to take part in the 10 June international against Czechoslovakia in Prague, but no one imagined for a moment that he would choose not to defend his world championship title in Amsterdam this August.

Peter-Michael Kolbe was voted Sportsman of the Year in 1975 after winning the single sculls world championship title, but he has always said that he would only keep on rowing as long as he derived personal enjoyment from oarsmanship.

His personal ambition was to prove that he is the fastest oarsman in the world. "I have done so," he says, "but now I no longer find rowing fun."

Kolbe was pipped at the post by Pertti Karppinen of Finland in the single sculls finals in Montreal, and this unexpected defeat after such a clear lead earlier in the race will surely have made him first think in terms of retirement.

"Until the Olympics I never knew there was such a thing as medical manipulation in sport," he explains, "and I see no point in carrying on while officials and team doctors think in terms of an injection here and an injection there to give their oarsmen the edge over the opposition."

Kolbe does not feel he is in any way lacking in gratitude towards the Federal Republic Rowing Association. "The only men to whom I owe a debt of gratitude are the late Karl Adam of Ratzeburg and my own coach Lothar Siepelt," he says.

His top-flight career began at Ratzeburg in 1973 when he beat Soviet Olympic gold medallist Malishev. He has chosen to retire after this year's Ratzeburg regatta.

As it happens Ratzeburg was only his third regatta this year. In May he outrowed Karppinen of Finland in Mannheim, avenging his Olympic defeat in Montreal. But in Salzgitter Kolbe was twice defeated himself by Timothy Crooks of Britain.

Kolbe attributed these defeats to a back injury, but adds that this injury has nothing to do with his decision to retire. He may conceivably row again for this country in the fours or eights, but he will be concentrating first and foremost on his career. *dpa*



Peter-Michael Kolbe (Photo: Horstmüller)

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 June 1977)

Marion Becker's javelin goes the furthest

Marion Becker, javelin silver medallist at Montreal, set up the best performance of the international season so far with a throw of 61.82 metres (205ft) at Recklinghausen.

This is an improvement of 76 centimetres on her previous personal best.

The Munich girl's performances have been a mixed bag so far this season. Severe backache has forced her to consult Armin Klümper, the Freiburg sports doctor, on more than one occasion.

"I do hope my back gives me no further trouble for the rest of the season and the major international tournaments that lie ahead," she says.

Marion Becker was lavish in her praise of seventeen-year-old Heidi Repser of [illegible], who has not only proved the "most consistent" javelin specialist of her age so far this season but has also notched up an impressive personal best throw of 57.74 metres (189ft 4in).

Heidi should do well in the forthcoming junior European championships, to be held in Donetzk, Russia, in August.

Ernst Schnitzler

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 13 June 1977)